

BADGER STATE

Smoke Signals

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

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In This Issue:

OFFICIAL RESULTS

1991 Wisconsin QSO Party

Sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club



The 1991 Wisconsin QSO Party was its usual rousing success, with excellent participation by both Wisconsin and out-of-state stations. Dick Sisson, W5-ONL/9, at left, tallied 23,590 points in the Single Operator Fixed Station category toward the Racine Megacycle Club's aggregate score during his operation from Kenosha County. The official results begin on page 8 of this issue. □

Date Set for 220 MHz Changes

On April 29, the FCC issued its final Report and Order in PR Docket 89-552, turning over 220-222 MHz to land mobile operators. Amateur Radio operators are required to relinquish use of this

spectrum effective 0000 UTC August 28 (7 p.m. CDT August 27, 1991). Details will appear in July QST (and in BSSS, if available).

- The ARRL Letter,
May 2, 1991

More in Congress Back H.R. 73

In the past month, nearly two dozen more congressmen and women have joined as co-sponsors of H.R. 73, Tennessee Rep Jim Cooper's "Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1991," bringing the total number of co-sponsors to 84. These newest friends of Amateur Radio (add them to the list in May QST, p. 59) are:

Reps. Dan Gallo (R-NJ), James Scheuer (D-NY), John LaFalce (D-NY), Nick Rahall (D-WV), Harris Fawell (R-IL), Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Butler Derrick (D-SC), David Nagle (D-IA), Frank Pallone (D-NJ), Tim Valentine (D-NC), and Dick Sweet (D-NH). Also,

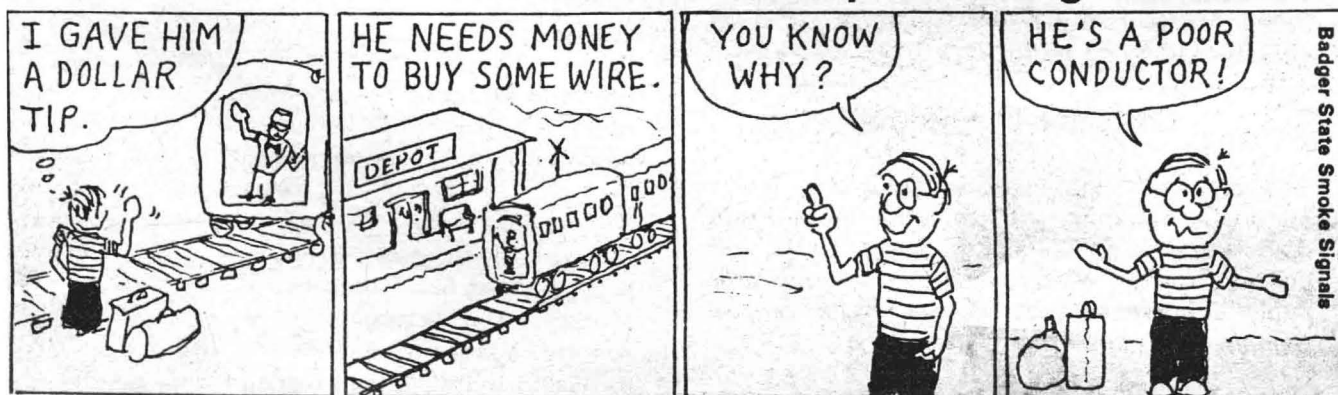
Reps. Charles Hatcher (G-GA), James Oberstar (D-MN), Eni Faleomavaega (D-AS [sic]), William Lapinski (D-IL), Charlie Rose (D-NC), Andrew Jacobs (D-IN), Christopher Shays (R-CT), Bob Smith (R-OR), Owen Pickett (D-VA), Wayne Owens (D-UT), Bill Emerson (R-MO), Bernie Sanders (I-VT), and Billy Tauzin (D-LA).

- The ARRL Letter, 5/2/91

BSSS Editor's Note: Only two Wisconsin representatives have signed as co-sponsors of H.R. 73 at the time of this writing: Gerald Kleczka and Steve Gunderson. Please write your representative now at House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. The bill needs strong support from us now. □

ELMER

by Rich Regent, K9GDF



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Swapfests and Other Social Events

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 1991. Starved Rock Radio Club Swapfest at Bureau County Fairgrounds in Priceton, IL.

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 1991, FATHERS DAY. 14TH ANNUAL CWRA Swapfest, Stevens Point, WI. University Center, UW Stevens Point. Tables and electrical power will be available for commercial vendors. Groups are invited to request space for meetings, etc. Exams available, see testpoint. Contact: Art Wysocki, N9BCA, CWRA SWAPFEST Chairman, 3356 April Lane, Stevens Point, WI 54481. (For more details see the flyer ad in this issue.)

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1991. South Milwaukee Swapfest. Held at the American Legion Post 434 on Shepard Ave. in Oak Creek, WI. Tickets \$4.00. Buy - sell - swap - food - drinks - camping. Happy time with free beer and soda. (For more details with map see the flyer ad elsewhere in this issue.)

JULY 26-29. Experimental Aircraft Association Fly-In Convention. The Fox cities ARC (Appleton, WI) will operate W9ZL call from the EAA Fly-In and Convention in Oshkosh, WI.

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1991. BOZO Hamfest, Village Lanes, Hwy. 57 north, Hilbert, WI.

Contact: KN9P, W2104 Crosstown Rd., Hilbert, WI 54129.

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1991. Annual Eau Claire Hamfest and Computer Expo., Eau Claire, WI. Contact: Liz Searing, N9EQR, 1129 McKinley Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701. (715) 834-1303. (see ad on last page and watch for flyer ad coming soon).

AUGUST 23-25, 1991. 1991 ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION AND HAMFEST. Saginaw, Michigan. Contact: 1991 National ARRL Convention, P.O. Box 1783, Saginaw, Michigan.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1991. BARS Hamfest and Computer Fair, Joliet, IL. Contact Bolingbrook Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 1009, Bolingbrook, IL 60440. (708) 759-7005.

SEPTEMBER 21-22, 1991. PEORIA SUPERFEST. Exposition Gardens, Peoria, IL. Contact: Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3508, Peoria, IL 61612-3508.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1991. KMRA Swapfest, Waukesha, WI. Contact: KMRA Swapfest, P.O. Box 276, Waukesha, WI 53187-0276

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1991. The FOXCITIES HAMFEST 91, will be held at the Starlite Club on Hwy. 55 North of Kaukauna. For information contact Don Baker, NB9J, 621 W. 7th ST., Kaukauna, WI. 54130. (414) 766-3886.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1992. Midwinter Madness Hobby Electronics Show, Blain Minn. Robbinsdale ARC, P.O. Box 22613, Robbinsdale, MN 55422.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest,

dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

Club Meetings

Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the April 1991 meetings' column for the latest complete listing. The following are additions or changes since that listing.

FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (MADISON WI)

First and third Tues - 7:30 p.m. - Red Cross Bldg., 4860 Sheboygan Ave., room "C" downstairs. It is the next building west of the Hill Farms State Office building. The meetings start promptly at 7:30 pm.

The Test Point

Amateur Radio examinations
scheduled in and around Wisconsin

The following are known locations where Amateur Radio license examinations are scheduled in the Badger State area.

June 5, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
June 8, 1991	Dubuque, IA
June 8, 1991	Appleton, WI
June 16, 1991	Stevens Point, WI
June 29, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
July 27, 1991	Eau Claire, WI
August 10, 1991	Appleton, WI
September 4, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
September 7, 1991	Dubuque, IA
September 28, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
October 2, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
October 12, 1991	Eau Claire, WI
October 13, 1991	Waukesha (BE) KMRA Swapfest
October 26, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
November 2, 1991	Menomonie, WI
November 3, 1991	Kaukauna, WI
November 6, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
November 11, 1991	Onalaska, WI
November 30, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
December 7, 1991	Stevens Point, WI
December 4, 1991	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
December 7, 1991	Dubuque, IA
March 28, 1992	Menomonie, WI
November 7, 1992	Menomonie, WI

Monthly, First Sat. Racine, WI
(except January, July & August)
Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)
Monthly, Third Sat. Loves Park, IL
Minnesota tests listed at end of column

Badger State Smoke Signals

Officers and Staff

Chairman: Kenneth A. Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560.

Editor: Jim Romelfanger, 412½ Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913. No telephone.

Treasurer: Jim Decker, WB9UQT, P.O. Box 337, Baraboo, WI 53913-0337.

Subscriptions

1 Year	(12 issues)	\$9.75
2 Years	(24 issues)	\$18.00
3 Years	(36 issues)	\$26.00

Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebner, K9EN.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections should be sent to Ken Ebner, K9EN, address above.

Editorial material, photographs, feature articles, display ads, and exchange papers should be sent to Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, address above.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebner, K9EN, address above.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Jim Decker, WB9UQT, address above.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. (For example, the closing date for the May issue is April 1.) The only exception is for participating clubs. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than 7 days after the club's meeting. (For example, if your club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 11th of the month.) This material is to be sent to Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

Conditions for Reprinting Material from BSSS

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. This credit is mandatory, and no material may be reprinted unless it is given. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901. This newspaper is produced for Radio Amateurs by Radio Amateurs. It is all volunteer and non-profit.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other organization.

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Most examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL or Badger State Smoke Signals. Send a 29¢ SASE if you request one from the ARRL or BSSS. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$5.25 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their original Amateur license to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB MRAC/VEC

1991 examination dates:

WEDNESDAY: June 5, September 4, October 2, November 6, and December 4, 1991

SATURDAY: June 29, September 28, October 26, and November 30, 1991.

WEDNESDAY DATES: 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at Wauwatosa East High School, North 74th and Milwaukee Avenue. Enter through the southmost entrance on 74th Street. Go to room 256 on the 2nd floor. Please arrive promptly, so testing can be completed before 10:00 p.m.

SATURDAY DATES: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at the Wauwatosa Savings and Loan, 7500 West State St. (Lower level) Please arrive promptly so testing can be completed by 12:00 noon.

Bring along your original license and two (2) good quality photocopies, plus two forms of identification, such as a driver's license, etc. Also required are a pen and \$5.00 for the exam fee. WALK-INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: print the grade of license you are applying for, and your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, c/o Jack Krause, W9JK, 1737 North 116th Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53226, or to Ed Seruga, KE9JJ, 3840 South 43rd Street #21, Milwaukee, WI 53220. Telephones: (414) 774-6999 or (414) 545-6299.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Oct. 13. - KMRA Swapfest (Waukesha)

Unless otherwise noted, examinations are administered beginning at 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at St. Nicholas Church basement, 5345 N. Green Bay Ave. (2 1/2 blocks south of Silver Spring), Milwaukee. Walk-ins are welcome. To register in advance, send a post card with your name, test or tests you wish to take, date you wish to take., your call sign, address and telephone number to Badger Examiners, Gary J. Sharbuno, W19M, 5119 W.

Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53223. Telephone (414) 355-0237.

MADISON, WISCONSIN (ARRL/VEC)

Exams will be held at Fire Station #6, on Badger Rd. (Just off South Park - Enter East door.) Test sessions will begin at 8:00 a.m. Subsequent exams will occur in the fall of 1991.

EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN

1991 dates: Jul. 27, & Oct. 12

Exams given at the UW/EC Maintenance/Central Stores Building, except for July 27, which will be at the 4-H Fairgrounds Hamfest site.

KAUKAUNA, WI

Held at the FOXCITIES HAMFEST 91, Starlite Club on Hwy. 55, North of Kaukauna. Exams begin at 9:00 a.m. Contact Larry, KD9IA at (414) 788-3823, or Don, NB9J at (414) 766-3886.

STEVENS POINT, WI

June 16, 1991

Held in conjunction with the CWRA annual swapfest at the UWSP University Center. Walk-ins accepted, but preregistration preferred. Contact: Joe Larson, N9JW at (715) 344-1182.

MENOMONIE WI - ARRL/VEC

Saturdays: Nov. 2, 1991 and Mar. 28 and Nov. 7, 1992.

The Northern Wisconsin Radio Club administers exams from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the Westconsin Credit Union Building, Lower level conference room, 444 S. Broadway, Menomonie, WI. Use front entrance of building. Walk-ins are accepted only to extent of available exam materials.

Contact: Jim Ley, NX9F, (715) 235-3998 (H); or (715) 232-1397 (O).

APPLETON, WI (ARRL/VEC)

June 8, and Aug. 11, 1991

Sponsored by the Fox Cities ARC. All exams are held at Madison Jr. High School, 2020 S. Carpenter St., Appleton, WI. Contact: KD9IA, (414) 788-3823

ONALASKA, WI

November 11, 1991

Sponsored by the Riverland ARC. Held at the Onalaska Community Center, 515 Quincy St. All exams start at 7:00 pm. Preregistration recommended. Contact: Rick Williams KV9U, 524 Troy St., Onalaska, WI. 54650. (608) 783-8028. or Dick Low, KOJYB, 1520 Nakomis Ave., La Crosse, WI 54603. (608) 784-9176 (After Apr. 5th.)

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Exams are given at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to William Firchow, Jr., NW9P, 1912 27th Street, Kenosha, WI 53140, telephone (414) 658-8390.

DUBUQUE, IOWA - ARRL/VEC

Exam dates for 1991 are: June 8, September 7, and December 7.

The Great River Amateur Radio Club VEs are now field stocked, which means retests can be given immediately.

Exams are held at 9:00 a.m. at the Central Fire Station, 9th and Central in Dubuque. Use the basement entrance on 9th Street. For more info, contact Mike Jozefowicz, NSOU, 2735 Hickory Hill, Dubuque IA 52001, or call Mike at (319) 582-8563. Talk-ins are on the 147.84/24 and 147.63/03 repeaters. -- (Thanks Art Evans, KA9KLZ)

TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct.

Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Greg Garner, WA9W, 4088 Highway 51, Harshaw, WI 54529. Telephone (715) 453-7096.

LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (DeVry VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Contact: Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS, 5006 N. Second St., Loves Park, IL 61111. (815) 877-6768.

MINNESOTA TESTS

Locations and contacts:

St. Paul Radio Club (SPRC)
St. Lukes School (cafeteria)
1065 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN
contact: Jay Bellows (612) 222-7253

Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC)
Creskide Community Center
98th and Penn Ave. So.
Bloomington, MN
contact: Art Putt (612) 881-7181

SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)
St. Thomas Aquinas Activity Bldg.
920 Holly Ave.
St. Paul Park, MN
contact: David Harrell (612) 459-1647

The above Minnesota test are listed as a help to readers near or traveling thru the area. If you are interested in any of these, please save this listing as we may not always have space available to list them. Thanks to "Ground Wave" for the above information.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules. Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to K9EN at the address shown on page 2.

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Bob Towns, N9IAI, Secretary • 413 Pine Street • Waupaca, WI 54981

Wisconsin Nets

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CST	Mgr.
BWN	Yes	3984	1100	0600	W9AYK
BEN	Yes	3985	1700	1200	WB9ESM
WSBN	Yes	3985	2230	1730	K9UTQ
WNN	Yes	3723	2300	1800	KA9FVX
WSSN	Yes	3645	2330	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0000	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0300	2200	W9NGP
NWTN	Yes	34/84	2330	1830	N59Q
		(Rhinelander area)			
6:30 Net	No	01/61	2330	1830	KA9QMC
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0145	2045	WB9NRK
		(Green Bay area)			
ARES	No	4.65/5.25	0100	2000	
		(South East/South Central Wisconsin)			
RACES	No	3993.5	1715	1215	WC9AAG
		(USB Tuesday and Thursday)			
RACES	No	3993.5	1300	0800	WA9DAY
		(LSB Sunday)			

Section Manager's Notes



Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221

Congratulations to new HF Awards Manager KA9LOE and VHF Awards Manager WD9EGE, both members of the Green Bay Mike and Key Club. If you would like to volunteer as a League official, let me know of your interests.

July 1st is the start of my eighth year as Section Manager; thanks for all of your help and support.

Happy Fourth of July.

July 6th, South Milwaukee ARC outdoor swapfest, starts 7 a.m. at American Legion Post, Shepard Avenue north of Ryan Road, in Oak Creek.

July 20th will be the first BOZO Hamfest, to be held at the Village Lanes, Hwy. 57 north, Hilbert; contact KN9P for info.

July 27th, the Eau Claire Hamfest will be at the 4-H Fairgrounds on Fairfax Street, featuring a packet meeting and walk-in exams.

Exams on July 27th will be given in Tomahawk.

Experimental Aircraft Association Special Event Station W9ZL will be operational in Oshkosh during daylight hours in July; dates not known at this time.

Sorry to report Silent Key W9KDZ.

Thought of the month: *If all you have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail.* □

Dane County ARES Helps Evacuate Thousands During Fire Emergency

By Jim Stone, K9JVP
Dane County Emergency Coordinator
102 South 5th Street
Mount Horeb, WI 53572

and

Richard R. Regent, K9GDF
ARRL Wisconsin Section Manager
5003 South 26th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221

At about 3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 3, 1991, a fire broke out in one refrigeration warehouse of a large complex at the Central Storage and Warehouse Company on Madison's east side. Residents reported the fire, and soon firefighters arrived to begin their work. The fire, which reached major proportions, was fueled by more than 14 million pounds of government surplus butter, cheese, and food products which were stored in the 500,000 square foot building.

Dane County ARES initially provided communications on an informal basis for the American Red Cross, which was providing rehabilitation support for tired and grease-covered firefighters. Jim Waldorf, KB9AQQ; Ralph Henes, K9VDD; and Richard Burton, N9BAF, were involved in this effort, with an Amateur Radio communications command post set up across the street at about 5 p.m.

Two Madison television stations carried live portions of the battle against the fire, and other news media arrived to cover the story. The fire received nationwide coverage.

Dikes were hastily built to divert the slippery goo that was flowing from the burning building away from nearby Starkweather Creek and Lake Monona, to prevent an environmental disaster.

In several hours, the flames reduced the warehouse to a pile of twisted steel beams and pieces of corrugated metal, then they raged onward, gutting a second building and threatening a third warehouse which contained tanks of anhydrous ammonia, which is used in refrigeration. Firefighters feared the tanks might explode. There are many apartment complexes and houses in the area so, at 1:30 a.m. on Saturday, the Madison Fire Department ordered the evacuation of about 3,000 residents of Madison's east side.

To assist the American Red Cross with the evacuation, Dane County Emergency Coordinator Jim Stone, K9JVP, was called and was asked for communications help. The Dane County ARES was alerted by a telephone tree and, by 12:15 a.m., operators were enroute to their assignments. Law enforcement officials used their vehicle sirens, horns, and public address systems to alert people to

the evacuation.

Jim Waldorf, KB9AQQ (President of the Madison Area Repeater Association), and Bob Aspinwall, KA9JPZ (Assistant EC for Dane County), set up at the LaFollette High School gymnasium, the designated shelter location, which was just being opened by a custodial worker for shelter use. Three Red Cross volunteers soon arrived at the shelter, and quickly set up tables in the gym to begin taking names, addresses and ages, and then check for any symptoms of smoke inhalation. The Madison Area Repeater Association's 146.76 repeater, which recently had an antenna improvement, was used and worked well; it linked the fire site to the school. Amateurs used hand-held radios for best portability.

W9JZ (the Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club's station at the Red Cross Headquarters building) was staffed by Terry Shaw, KA9WBX; Jake Kitzinger, KE9XZ; and Kevin Kolpitke, WB9YHB. The station at Red Cross Headquarters handled and relayed many messages for supplies, cots, coffee, along with inquiries about missing persons. Dianne Aspinwall, KB9DSI, was pressed into service helping to answer the heavy load of telephone traffic coming into Red Cross Headquarters.

At about 3 a.m., Steve Wiswell, WD9FLI, replaced KB9AQQ at the shelter at LaFollette High School, and Bob Aspinwall, KA9JPZ, was placed at Winnequah School, where a second shelter was opened.

Later, three more Red Cross volunteers and ARES workers arrived at Red Cross Headquarters. The paperwork became substantial, and a few specific inquiries were difficult to answer because of the large number of evacuees. Jim, KB9AQQ, says, "The Red Cross volunteers were ready to go, did a good job setting up, and provided plenty of food."

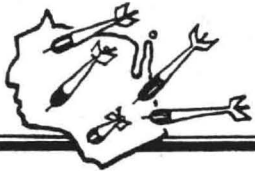
At 3:30 a.m., EC Jim Stone, K9JVP, activated the station at the Dane County Emergency Operating Center to provide communication with the shelter sites. This was necessary to coordinate nursing care for handicapped and infirm evacuees.

Shortly after 3:30 a.m., the evacuation order was modified to one of an advisory nature, allowing residents to return to their homes at their own risk. The shelter at Winnequah School was closed.

By 5:45 a.m., the Amateur Radio support part of the evacuation was completed, as almost all of the evacuees had chosen to return to their homes. By that time, normal telephone communications had been established for the cleanup at the shelters and at Red Cross Headquarters.

During the night, KA9JPZ also provided the use of his own van to supplement the Red Cross vehicles

Please turn to page 17



HERE and THERE

H.P.M. AWARD: One thousand dollars, a plaque, and travel and accommodation expenses to attend an ARRL convention will go to a young amateur chosen to receive the 1990 Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. The selection will be made by the ARRL Board of Directors at their July meeting.

If you know a deserving young (under 21) person who has excelled in Amateur Radio, let your Section Manager know. SMs will submit nominations to ARRL HQ by June 15, 1991. (The Wisconsin Section Manager is Richard Regent, K9GDF, 5003 S. 26th St., Milwaukee, WI 53221.)

- The ARRL Letter, 5/2/91

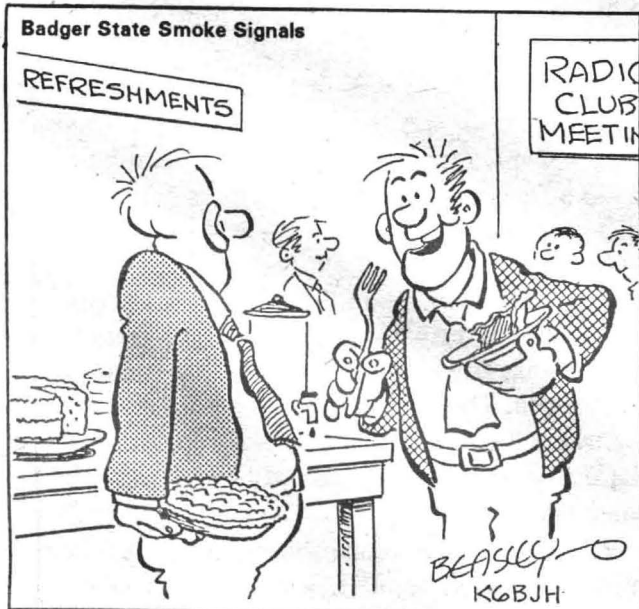
NEW ICOM WARRANTY PROGRAM: Icom is proud to announce a new one-year warranty program for all amateur transceivers and receivers. Effective April 1, 1991, any Icom transceiver of receiver purchased includes a one-year warranty. The warranty covers Icom amateur HF transceivers, receivers, VHF/UHF Mobiles, and VHF/UHF Handhelds.

Icom America, Inc. is dedicated to exceeding our customers' expectations, backing our products with an outstanding warranty program is a part of that dedication.

- Icom news release

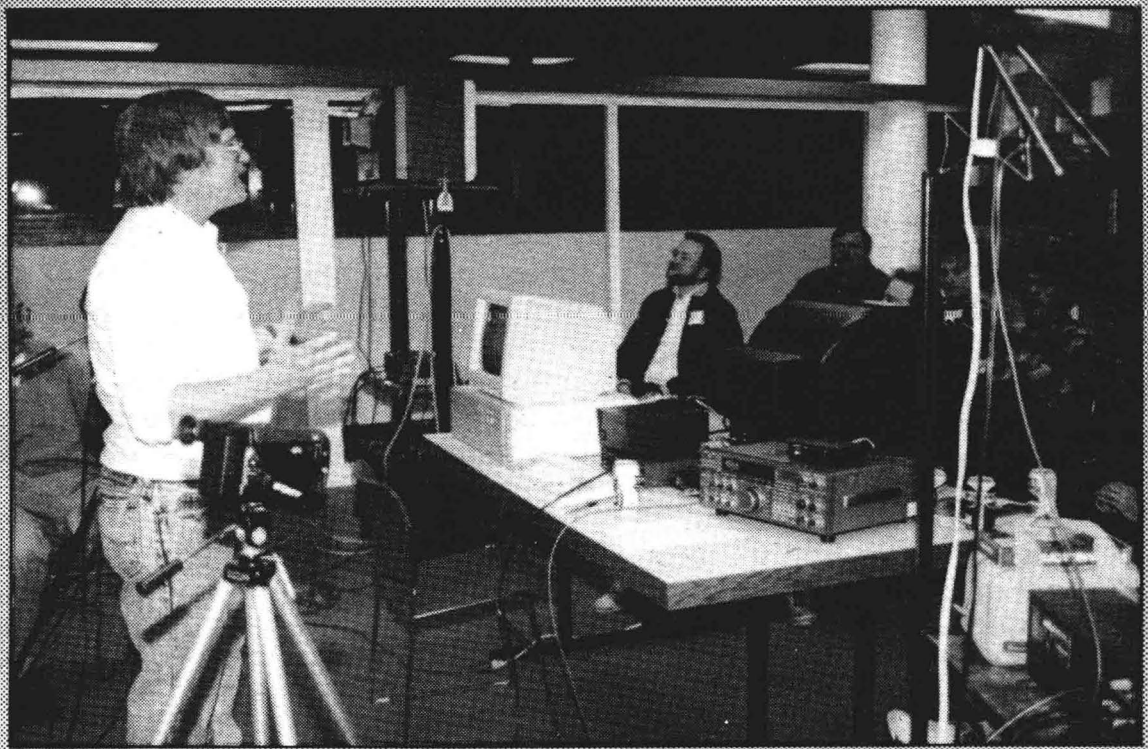
FIELD DAY IS JUNE 29 AND 30: While your club or group is hitting the airwaves, take some pictures of them in action. Send some, along with your score summary, to the ARRL; you never know, they might appear with the results in *QST*! And, if you send some to us here at *Badger State Smoke Signals*, we'll almost certainly print them somewhere in these hallowed pages. They must be glossy prints, properly exposed, and in good focus and, in most cases, they should show amateurs in action. Remember that we do not normally return photos.

HINT #1: Many photo dealers offer double sets of prints at no extra charge. **HINT #2:** If your club isn't now doing so, you should be keeping a scrapbook with photos; such a scrapbook will become a



I TOLD THE GUYS YOU'D TAKE IT O.K. WHEN I SAID YOU HAD THE LOUSIEST SIGNAL ON THE BAND!

PacketCluster Edification



Ted Giske, K9IMM, at left, gave an enjoyable and educational talk to the Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club in Madison at one of the club's spring meetings. He discussed and demonstrated the many wonders and minor miracles that PacketCluster can perform for Deserving DXers.

- Photo by Steve Polishinski/WB9YSD

real treasure in the future. Be sure you identify all subjects by full name, call sign, and city, both in photos sent for publication and in your scrapbook.

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FCC Shuts Down Reedsburg, WI Pirate Radio Station

A Wisconsin pirate radio station was recently shut down by Federal Communications Commission officials, based on monitoring operations by the FCC's Field Operations Bureau. Domenic R. Bianco (KA9QFK - ed.), of Reedsburg, WI, was fined \$1,000 for illegal broadcasting of his "KUSA" station on 7.4 MHz. That frequency is licensed to international fixed public radio communications service only. Unauthorized broadcasting can carry as much as a \$100,000 monetary fine and one year in prison.

- Radio World, May 8, 1991

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NDMS '90 in Milwaukee

By John Leekley, WB9SMM

Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator

W169 N8480 Sheridan Drive

Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

Historically, the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) has not been a highlight of the Milwaukee/Waukesha ARES annual calendar. We have two major parades, a major bike ride (13,000 to 15,000 participants), any number of "a-thons", and whatever Mother Nature wants to dish up in the way of severe weather alerts to keep us occupied; the SET is overkill. Thus, the mention of NDMS '90 was basically ho-hum until the word "packet" was added.

The National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) has been around for some time, but it never made an impression on me until I was invited to a presentation on January 26, 1990, given by William E. Clark (Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Preparedness/NDMS, U.S. Public Health Service) and Richard C. Niemtzow (M.D., Ph.D., Lt. Col. USAFMC, Brooks AFB). The presentation was hosted by WB9RQR at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Wauwatosa and was attended primarily by hams from the Milwaukee County Medical Complex and Emergency Government. Mr. Clark explained that the National Disaster Medical System is a national emergency response plan combining both military and civilian resources for the purpose of moving large numbers of injured people out of a disaster area to facilities in other parts of the country. Dr. Niemtzow (Rich, N5EW) described the application of packet radio to these types of drills and pointed to exercises on the East Coast where packet had been successfully utilized. Since previous NDMS exercises in the Milwaukee area had been totally local in nature, the staging of a national drill clearly meant the need to blaze new trails.

At a subsequent meeting on March 21st at the Lake County, Illinois, Sheriff's Office in Libertyville, it was clear that we had a major task ahead of us. The scenario for the NDMS '90 drill was to be an earthquake in the New Madrid Fault (pronounced MADrid). This fault is located near the southern tip of Illinois and was last heard from in the early 1800's when a major quake caused the Mississippi to flow backwards and church bells to ring in Philadelphia. Few people were hurt, however, because there were few people around to hurt. Today, of course, the result would be much different. Initially the scenario called for 500 casualties to be air-evacuated to Milwaukee. Subsequently, this number dropped to 216. Most of the actual "victims" would be Navy recruits "volunteered" out of the Great Lakes Naval Training Center in northeastern Illinois. GLNTC also serves as the Federal Control Center for NDMS in the area. While there were initial plans to fly in at least one planeload of "victims" to add realism, the crisis in the Mideast required that all of the victims be staged from the airport in Milwaukee after being bused in from Great Lakes.

At the March meeting, it became clear to me that while packet was the mode of choice for tracking victims and providing information to all of the players, a great deal of work needed to be done to get from the concept to the actual implementation. The project went forward on two fronts: (1) development of the software and necessary training and (2) design and implementation of the hardware necessary to support the communication system. Formidable obstacles to both projects existed. In the end, we achieved excellent results with the ARES-DATA software, but we were unable to complete a node/backbone system in time for the drill.

The software problem was particularly interesting. While packet is obviously the mode of choice for any situation requiring: 1) the transmission of large amounts of data, 2) speed, 3) accuracy of transmission, and/or 4) privacy, there is precious little in the way of programs or systems generally available to support emergency communications requirements. I have forgotten who first put me onto ARES-DATA, but someone did and I wrote to TAPR (Tucson Amateur Packet Radio) and received a copy on a disk from them. I hauled a spare computer out of the back room and soon had the program playing (after a marathon climb up the learning curve). At about the same time, we got a new node playing in downtown Milwaukee on 145.09 (more on this later), and it was then possible for several stations to connect to the system.

ARES-DATA is a program written by WN6I and N6KL for use on an IBM computer. Hardware permitting, it will allow 4 TNC's to be connected to it. The version I have will allow ten connects to each TNC (WA8DED firmware re-

quired). The computer operates a very simple data base and treats the connected stations as terminals which can 1) add/update information, 2) extract the results of queries, and 3) communicate (amongst terminals) on a very limited basis. Each record consists of four sortable fields of 20 characters each plus a non-sortable information field of 72 characters. The program allows for access to a special directory on the computer's hard disk wherein is located general information on the operation of the program in one or more user downloadable files. All in all, a simple but versatile program -- or so it seemed until we started really playing with it.

The program froze several days after we put a fair amount of information into the system: I had set it up initially with a roster with names, addresses, call signs and so forth which we could manipulate. Several days into the project, I discovered that the computer had hung up, and that any time a station connected, the computer would immediately begin sending one record repeatedly until the station disconnected. At that point, the storage buffer on the TNC filled up with as many repetitions of the record as possible and waited for the next innocent victim to connect. In addition, the computer keyboard locked up so that no combination of keys would produce any effect. The only way to regain control was to reboot the computer. At first, we thought that certain special characters might be viewed by the program as control characters with the resulting lock up. The more we struggled with it, the more the problem proved to be intractable. Every evening I would leave my office with ARES-DATA playing happily along and practically every morning I would return to find the computer completely hung up. After several days of frustration I copied off the entire directory -- programs and data -- and shipped it off to the author along with a letter of explanation.

I continued to try to track down the problem locally, by clearing out all the old data and starting the system up fresh. We avoided using any character other than the letters of the alphabet, numbers 0 through 9, and the comma (used to delineate fields within a record). That didn't help. Then came a phone call on a Sunday afternoon from N6KL. It appears we had stumbled onto a bug in the program that had not theretofore reared its head. I have forgotten the details except that it had to do with the length of the record and the number 128. When the record was especially long, the difference between the actual record length and 128 somehow caused the program to hang up and transmit a single record over and over again. N6KL promised a revised version of the program which arrived within days. Once it was installed, there was nary a hint of a problem. The system operated flawlessly during the drill. There were 216 "victims" and a total of 574 records entered by the time the drill was complete. Hats off to the authors for super support!

On the hardware side, while we were not able to implement a full-blown ARES-dedicated system as we planned, we were able to put together a temporary system which was more than adequate for the task. Earlier in the year, when the question of how to operate this and other ARES packet activities was being debated, it became clear that emergency related activities could easily get bogged down if superimposed on frequencies and activities already well established. If, for instance, an ARES function tried to co-exist on the same frequency as one or more local bulletin boards, it could easily be lost under the weight of the BBS activities, particularly if the emergency stations were running low power. Therefore, it was decided early on to design a system which would be separate from but integrated with the on-going packet activities. Because two meters in Milwaukee is already fully populated, it was decided to use 70 cm. frequencies for access and a 2-meter backbone frequency to link nodes together. A hub and spoke system for southeastern Wisconsin was designed and is currently being constructed utilizing nodes on 440 MHz in various strategic spots linked by a high-speed 2-meter backbone to a central point at which there is gateway access to other 2-meter packet frequencies.

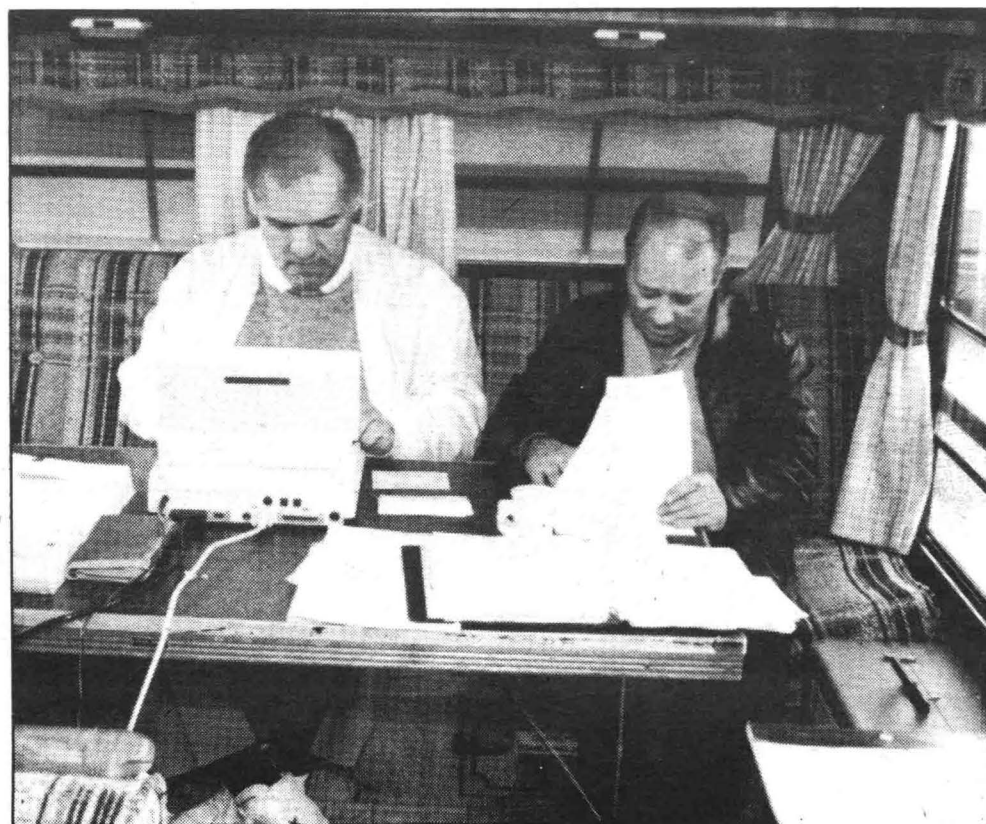
In the meantime, a stand-alone node (on 145.09) was installed in a downtown Milwaukee high-rise to support the operation. This event was particularly interesting because up to that point all of the Milwaukee area nodes were located in the suburbs, and there was no point at which a downtown user could connect using low power and minimal antenna. This, of course, is the exact situation that would result in an emergency where a portable station was set up at a shelter or EOC or whatever. Ultimately, the temporary downtown Milwaukee node will be replaced by a permanent node on 440.

Because the initial planning called for the establishment of as many remote packet sites as possible, it was imperative that ARES-DATA be given as much multiple-connect capability as possible. To that end, a dual RS232 port board was



Pearl Capello, WB9BZC, operated voice net control from the communications trailer. She coordinated operations with the hospitals, staging area, Paramedic Base, and Emergency Government.

- Photo by John Leekley/WB9SMM



Jim Clark, N9IDH (left), types updates into a portable packet station, while Jack McLeland, W9ATK, looks up records. All operations in the staging area were from a communications trailer operated by Milwaukee County Emergency Government.

- Photo by John Leekley/WB9SMM

- Photo by John Leekley/WB9SMM

installed on the computer and a second TNC configured to handle a 440 radio. As it turned out, the extra capacity really wasn't necessary for this drill, but the exercise was useful because we discovered that the system did not bog down even with 13 simultaneous connects.

There were several lessons learned from this activity:

- (1) Know your hardware and software and exercise both as fully as possible well in advance to make sure there aren't any hidden problems.
- (2) Analyze carefully the amount of data input and make sure you have enough operators and equipment to handle the workload. We discovered during the drill that the data input arising out of the triage and dispatch function at the airport overloaded one person typing "hunt and peck" on one packet system. It took almost a minute to fully update each record with the triage tag number, the hospital code, the triage card color code and the fact that the victim was being transported. A minimum of two stations should have been on-line to handle that function and a third should have been available for backup. I do not know if the program will allow for data which is input off-line and then uploaded, but even if it does, it still means at least two (and better three) operators working concurrently.
- (3) Unless there is a need for access to the data base, there is no real purpose served (other than, possibly, privacy) in sending a portable packet station to a remote site. For this operation, we had four packet stations located at hospitals. The other six hospitals were served by voice operators who relayed to packet operators at home. Since the hospital administrators had no need to find out about other patients or other hospitals, the use of packet stations at the hospitals was a waste of manpower and hardware resources. Those hospitals manned by voice operators functioned just as well and the information was input in a timely fashion.

(4) There is no substitute for communication and training in advance. I spent considerable time instructing all participants as to the type of triage tag to be used and the importance of the triage number, only to discover on the day of the drill that the decision had been made to use some "old" tags which were obsolete but still in inventory. The net result was a triage tag which nobody had seen before: different layout, different numbering system, no color coding. Further, considerable confusion arose over the proper identification number. We were told to use the triage tag number for ID purposes. However, the victims were servicemen and their social security number also serves as their service ID number, so they focused on that number as their "identification". In addition, the hospitals generated their own patient number which they used in tracking their patients. Thus, there were three sets of numbers, only one of which was right

(and it was on the wrong form). Thankfully, it wasn't the real thing or we would have lost some people.

Conclusion: Get a copy of ARESDATA and *use* it. The latest version is 1.5. It works, but the learning curve is steep and needs to be climbed well in advance of the time when the balloon goes up. I understand it is available on CompuServe as well as from TAPR. The authors had a short article in *QST* several months ago. □

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OFFICIAL RESULTS

1991 Wisconsin QSO Party

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WISCONSIN STATIONS

CALL	COUNTY	CLASS	CW PTS	SSB PTS	MULT PTS	BONUS PTS	FINAL SCORE	CLUB AFFILIATION
Multi-Operator/Mobile								
NZ9Z/M *	Manitowoc	MM	0	383	11	6500	24118	ManCoRad Club Ops: NZ9Z, WB9ESM, KA9ZQF
KA9BXG/M	Brown	MM	0	145	40	2000	7800	Green Bay Mike & Key Club

Multi-Operator/Fixed								
KB9S/9 *	Eau Claire	MF	282	450	88	500	64916	Wabasha Area ARC Ops: KB9S, KIØF
W9RF	Sheboygan	MF	266	198	74	0	34336	Sheboygan ARC Ops: W9RF, NI9Z
ND9Z	Brown	MF	174	204	72	500	27716	Green Bay Mike & Key Club Ops: ND9Z, KA9LOE
W9UDU	Racine	MF	0	43	14	0	602	Racine Megacycle Club Ops: N9KEX, WB9USI

Multi-Transmitter/Multi-Operator/Mobile								
N9KS *	Waukesha	M2	438	161	51	7500	38049	Kettle Moraine ARC Ops: N9KS, NE9Z

Single-Operator/Technician								
N9JUJ *	Waukesha	ST	0	255	22	0	5610	Watertown ARC
N9ICH	Milwaukee	ST	0	208	23	0	4784	Milwaukee RAC
N9HDV	Dane	ST	0	164	22	0	3608	Watertown ARC
N9EFX	Dodge	ST	0	87	27	0	2349	Watertown ARC
KB9FLH	Waukesha	ST	0	72	15	0	1080	Watertown ARC

Single-Operator/Novice								
WD9EGC *	Rock	SN	0	401	38	0	15238	Beloit ARC

Single-Operator/Mobile								
W9OP *	Winnebago	SM	132	146	57	4500	20346	B.A.R.F.
NA9M	Dane	SM	170	61	45	1000	11395	Four Lakes ARC
WB9TOC/M		SM	0	159	35	4500	10065	
N9AAA/M	Dane	SM	0	178	37	3000	9586	Watertown ARC
K9DZG/M	Dane	SM	110	54	37	2000	8068	Yellow Thunder ARC
WB9UAI/M	Milwaukee	SM	0	69	10	500	1190	

Single-Operator/Fixed								
W9XT **	Washington	SF	126	613	97	0	71683	Kettle Moraine ARC
W9UP *	LaCrosse	SF	208	414	93	0	57846	Riverland ARC Op: KA9FOX
WA9TZE *	Milwaukee	SF	346	230	99	0	57024	W/K ARC
K9OSH *	Waukesha	SF	82	470	79	0	43608	Kettle Moraine ARC
K1TMM *	Milwaukee	SF	122	355	90	0	42930	Kettle Moraine ARC
N9AW *	Milwaukee	SF	154	327	77	0	37037	W/K ARC
WA1UJU *	Waukesha	SF	184	270	79	0	35866	Kettle Moraine ARC

General Comments

This year we received 128 entries, 94 from Wisconsin and 34 from out of state. This is up from last year's 84 total entries, but below our high of 148 entries registered in 1987.

66 Wisconsin counties were represented, as well as all 50 states and 9 Canadian Provinces. Florence, Grant, Menominee, Richland, Rusk and Shawano were not represented. This totals one more county represented this year over 1990. Only Grant and Rusk counties were not represented in 1990 or 1991. Only Rusk County has not been on in 1989, 1990, or 1991.

Band conditions were again excellent. We had contacts made from 160 to 3/4 meters this year, for the first time since I have kept the records. 40 meters was the bread and butter band for most stations, with a lot of activity on 80, 20, 10 and 2 meters. Novice WD9EGC again used 10 meters exclusively to collect 401 QSOs while Technician N9ICH made 208 QSOs, all on ten meters. When the FCC gave them 10 meter phone privileges, it sure made a difference in our contest. Even our winner made 249 QSOs of his 613 phone QSOs on ten meters. Only 15 meters lacked much activity.

The stations who took to the highways as mobile stations need special recognition. They put counties on the air that would otherwise not have been available. I have them listed alphabetically with the total counties in parenthesis: N9AAA (6); KA9BXG (4); K9DZG(7); N9KS(15); W9OP (10); WB9TOC (11); WB9UAI (8); NZ9Z (15).

I must mention the many stations, both in state and out of state, who participated and provided contacts, but did not send in logs. They helped us all achieve the results we got. I sin-

CALL	COUNTY	CLASS	CW PTS	SSB PTS	MULT	BONUS PTS	FINAL SCORE	CLUB AFFILIATION
WG9U *	Milwaukee	SF	192	249	75	0	33075	W/K ARC
NK9G *	Milwaukee	SF	220	189	77	0	31493	W/K ARC
K9LGU	Calumet	SF	282	161	68	0	30124	C.A.R.E.S.
K9VGE	Waukesha	SF	198	241	65	0	28535	Kettle Moraine ARC
N9AU	Milwaukee	SF	50	263	86	0	26918	West Allis RAC
W5ONL/9	Kenosha	SF	162	175	70	0	23590	Racine Megacycle Club
N9HR	Jefferson	SF	76	233	74	0	22866	Watertown ARC
N9FVN	Lafayette	SF	226	137	62	0	22506	
W9HE	Waukesha	SF	364	0	61	0	22204	Society Midwest Contesters
KO9Q	Sheboygan	SF	236	105	63	0	21483	Sheboygan County ARC
W9WAQ	Dodge	SF	226	117	62	0	21266	Watertown ARC
K9GDF	Milwaukee	SF	188	129	63	0	19971	W/K ARC
WU9B	Milwaukee	SF	10	271	71	0	19951	Kettle Moraine ARC
WB9MSM	Dodge	SF	152	158	64	0	19840	Watertown ARC
AE9K	Waukesha	SF	104	175	68	0	18972	Allen Bradley ARC
KD9QL	Wood	SF	0	252	67	0	16884	
KE9QT	Vernon	SF	34	217	66	0	16566	
K9KR	Racine	SF	0	227	70	0	15890	West Allis RAC
KB9QL	Milwaukee	SF	0	202	74	0	14948	W/K ARC
K9IAC	Milwaukee	SF	0	232	63	0	14616	West Allis RAC
W9CBE	Dane	SF	130	101	56	0	12936	
WA9YSD	Milwaukee	SF	202	18	53	0	11660	GMDXA
K9FHI	Dodge	SF	0	179	63	0	11277	Rock River Radio Club
K9ZZ	Sauk	SF	122	59	55	500	10455	Yellow Thunder ARC
N9EAJ	Jefferson	SF	118	84	49	0	9898	Watertown ARC
WA9FCL		SF	2	173	55	0	9625	
NX9H	Milwaukee	SF	0	165	53	0	8745	W/K ARC
W9CHD	Milwaukee	SF	166	30	42	500	8732	
KØDL	Dunn	SF	196	0	43	0	8428	NWRC
WD9IAB	Manitowoc	SF	118	76	43	0	8342	
WA9ZTY	Dane	SF	0	159	52	0	8268	Watertown ARC
KW9E	Milwaukee	SF	134	33	49	0	8183	Kettle Moraine ARC
W9MSE	Fond Du Lac	SF	194	0	40	0	7760	
NØAKC	Eau Claire	SF	0	141	55	0	7755	Fall Creek Contest Club
W9YCV	Milwaukee	SF	88	69	47	0	7379	West Allis RAC
WA9KCU	Dodge	SF	0	155	47	0	7285	Watertown ARC
WS9E	Marathon	SF	84	76	45	0	7200	
KA9SMD	Waukesha	SF	20	144	42	0	6888	Kettle Moraine ARC
WI9M	Milwaukee	SF	0	114	56	0	6384	Ozaukee ARC
KA9OSA	Dane	SF	0	122	48	0	5856	Watertown ARC
N9JAK	Racine	SF	0	117	50	0	5850	Allen Bradley ARC
KE9C	Jefferson	SF	0	114	46	0	5244	Watertown ARC
KD9BC	Winnebago	SF	0	108	47	0	5076	Wisc Amateur Contest Organization
N9FZL	Outagamie	SF	0	111	43	0	4773	Green Bay Mike & Key Club
W9HR	Kenosha	SF	142	1	31	0	4433	
KD9OY	La Crosse	SF	0	92	47	0	4324	
K9JIG	Brown	SF	0	99	42	0	4158	Green Bay Mike & Key Club
WB9TNF	Milwaukee	SF	0	100	38	0	3800	W/K ARC
WW9P	Manitowoc	SF	58	42	38	0	3800	Mancorad
WA9BZW	Dane	SF	0	98	38	0	3724	Four Lakes ARC
WS9I	Waukesha	SF	6	89	38	0	3610	Kettle Moraine ARC
WW9X	Racine	SF	0	75	45	0	3375	Allen Bradley ARC
KA9HFA		SF	0	81	41	0	3321	
K9WTF	Waukesha	SF	0	93	32	0	2976	West Allis RAC
KE9LL	Milwaukee	SF	0	84	33	0	2772	Milwaukee ARC

cerely think that without this level of participation, the Wisconsin QSO Party would not be what it is. I am very thankful for that. I also am very thankful for the many stations who enter our contest, which I think helps attract this level of activity.

I found it necessary to adjust 15 scores this year. All those stations have been notified in writing.

Which leads us to the top scorer. For a second year in a row, W9XT has walked away with the prize. Gary Sutcliffe added 7748 more points to his total of last year, ending up at 71,683 total points. Gary made 613 phone and 63 CW contacts, which places him third on our all time high list, below W9ZR's 1987 total of 75,060 and WB9SBD's 1989 total of 73,240. Congratulations again, Gary.

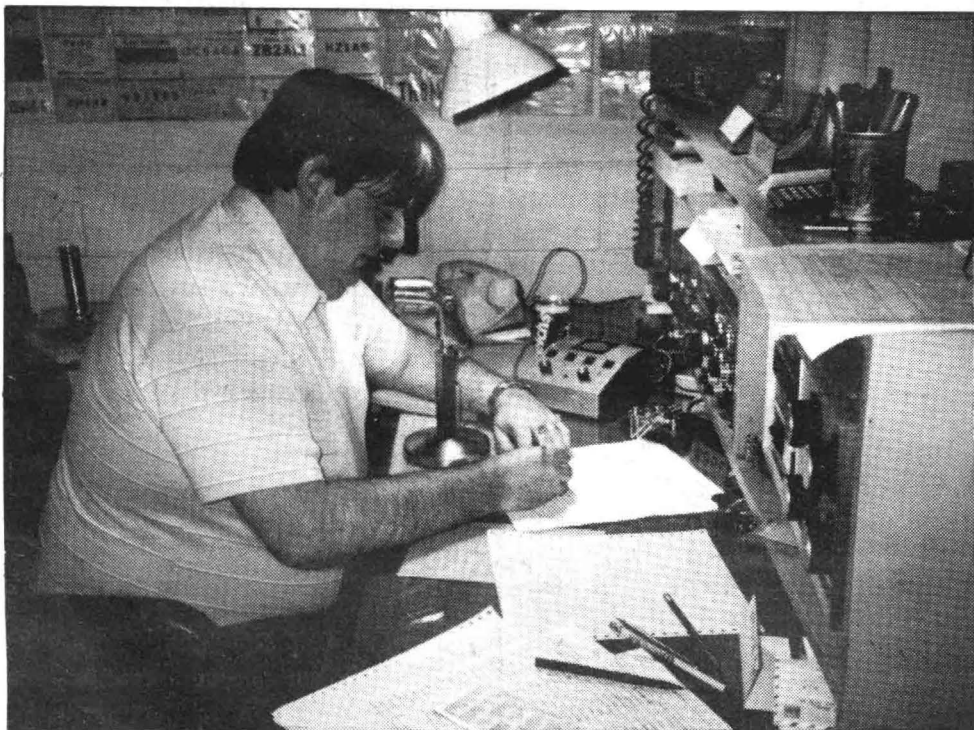
As Chairman, I sincerely wish to thank all the stations who participated, both fixed and mobile, whether to a large degree or to a small degree. **WITHOUT YOU, THERE WOULD BE NO PARTY.** See you on the second Sunday of March, 1992.

Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR
Wisconsin QSO Party Committee

Soapbox

Worked 149 different Wisconsin Stations.
- K1TMM/9

I was the 1990 Quebec winner with my old call VE2AQP. In 1991 my base station was inoperative so I operated mobile.
- VE2EM/M



The two operators of the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club Multi-Operator Fixed Station entry (W9RF) are shown here. In the photo at left is



Rick Robinson, N19Z; at right is Chris Bauer, W9RF. The entry placed second, with 34,336 points.

CALL	COUNTY	CLASS	CW PTS	SSB PTS	MULT PTS	BONUS PTS	FINAL SCORE	CLUB AFFILIATION
WA9WYI	Washington	SF	42	54	28	0	2688	Washington County ARC
WA0PFV	Racine	SF	0	65	41	0	2665	Racine Megacycle Club
NF9V	Jefferson	SF	84	8	26	0	2392	Watertown ARC
WA9YVE	Jefferson	SF	0	72	25	0	1800	Watertown ARC
N9JFK	Waupaca	SF	0	57	29	0	1653	
KC9BY	Waukesha	SF	0	67	22	0	1474	Kettle Moraine ARC
WJ9H	Dane	SF	2	43	23	0	1035	Madison Area Repeater Assn.
W9TQD	Wood	SF	0	41	22	0	902	
W9NUE	Waukesha	SF	0	49	18	0	882	
KB9W	Polk	SF	48	0	18	0	864	
WT9P	Milwaukee	SF	0	36	21	0	756	West Allis RAC
WV9Z	Waukesha	SF	0	25	18	0	450	Allen Bradley ARC
W9ODV	Sheboygan	SF	0	23	16	0	368	Sheboygan County ARC

* CERTIFICATE ** PLAQUE

U.S.A. STATIONS

CALL	STATE	CW PTS	SSB PTS	WISCONSIN COUNTIES	FINAL SCORE	CLUB AFFILIATION
WR4O *	AL	24	23	12	564	
KK6RG *	CA	0	27	15	405	
WB0PVN/6	CA	0	26	14	364	
W3GRW *	CO	124	19	22	3146	
KC4TNI *	FL	52	0	11	572	
WK4F	FL	0	13	9	117	
KE7UH *	ID	0	5	2	10	
AC9C *	IL	170	235	57	23085	
N9RO	IL	0	38	18	684	
WM9M *	IN	0	55	25	1375	SMC
K9DIY	IN	32	0	12	384	
WA4MXD *	KY	0	82	31	2542	
W3GG *	MD	92	10	19	1938	
WA1WPR *	ME	20	0	6	120	
KA1UEH	ME	14	0	5	70	
WB8WKN *	MI	0	33	16	528	
N0BSH *	MN	98	102	37	7900	
W0KMH	MN	50	26	23	1748	
WO0G *	MO	166	204	50	18500	SMC
W9ERW	MO	94	0	17	1598	
N9ARX/0 *	NE	56	101	41	6437	
WM1Y *	NH	20	57	30	2310	
NJ2D *	NJ	106	60	30	4980	
W2NZH	NJ	134	0	23	3082	
AE2N	NJ	64	0	15	960	
N2DCH *	NY	64	15	15	1185	
WV8B *	OH	138	41	28	5012	
WB8LXT	OH	0	101	34	3434	
N3CZB *	PA	18	0	6	108	
VE2EM/M *	Queb	60	17	20	1540	
W9WI/4 *	TN	84	26	26	2860	
N5AFV *	TX	18	8	11	286	
K6XO *	UT	12	10	10	220	

* CERTIFICATE



Dennis Berg, WB9MSM, of Watertown (Dodge County), tallied 19,840 points toward the club aggregate score of the Watertown Amateur Radio Club. He operated in the Single Operator, Fixed Station category.

The West Allis Radio Amateur Club (sponsor of the Wisconsin QSO Party) and the staff of *Badger State Smoke Signals* thank the QSO Party participants who sent photos to be published with the results.

Next year's Wisconsin QSO Party will be on Sunday, March 8, 1992!

Lotta fun. Happy to be able to join in.
- AE2N

Enjoyed it. Thanks. - W3GRW

Nice contest. Needs more participation.
- KC4NI

WD9EGC stuck through the entire contest which I monitored him to the end. Excellent operator with perseverance and good operating practice. Conditions were not exactly good for the contest from southern California but enjoyed it very much.
- WB0PVN/6

The usual great 10 meter propagation between Idaho and Wisconsin failed. I did hear a fair number of WISC stations on 40 meters but could not raise them as they seemed to be listening only for loud locals. I should get a linear.
- KE7UH

Thanks for great!! party. I won the Ohio last year with 495 pts. Increased points ten fold this year - still missed many counties that were around last year.
- WV8B

Sure makes a difference running 100 watts and a vertical compared to what I had up when I lived in Shawano County.
- WA9BZW

I really enjoyed this QSO Party. Sri I did not have more time. The WI ops were courteous and skilled.
- K9DIY

Sure had a lot of fun in the QSO Party and we had company twice during that time too.
- K9FHI

Thank you for another fun contest. It is always a good time. See you next year.
- N9FVN

Thanks to NZ9Z mobile in rare counties, this is my best score ever.
- N9FZL

As always a great together. Did not do too well this year because was also in the JA contest between 3 and 5 PM. Enjoyed working many old friends. Thanks for making it possible.
- W9HE

The 7 hour format is perfect.
- N9HR

Missed the last several QSO Parties. Happy I did not miss this one. Very large amount of activity.
- WD9IAB

Thanks for another great QSO Party.



This photo is of two-thirds of the NZ9Z/M team in the 1991 Wisconsin QSO Party. At left is John Glaeser, WB9ESM, and at right is John Meyer, NZ9Z. The photo was taken by the other 1/3 of the team, Lou Maylander, KA9ZQF. John says: "After a slow start in Iowa County, things went great! You could feel the tension building on frequency as we neared each county line. The pileups were fun! We only got lost twice - state highways had been changed to county trunks, unbeknownst to us. Look for us to try to activate even more counties next year!" (This photo was taken near the start of the contest - think of how they must have looked 15 counties later!) The team took first place with 24,118 points in the Multi-Operator/Mobile category.

Club Aggregate Scores

KETTLE MORaine RADIO AMATEURS *	300777
W/K ARC OF GREATER MILWAUKEE	206093
WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	126948
WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB	68535
WABASHA AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	64916
RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	57846
SHEBOYGAN CO. AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	56187
GREEN BAY MIKE & KEY CLUB	44447
SOCIETY OF MIDWEST CONTESTERS	42079
C.A.R.E.S.	30124
ALLEN BRADLEY ARC	28647
MANCORAD	27918
B.A.R.F.	20346
YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	18523
BELOIT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	15238
FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	15119
GMDXA	11660
ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB	11277

Odds and Ends

• Since the front page story about H.R. 73 (The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1991) was prepared, ten more congressmen and women have joined as cosponsors of that bill. The total number of cosponsors is now 93, according to *The ARRL Letter* of May 16, 1991. At this time, there are still just two cosponsors of H.R. 73 among Wisconsin's delegation to the House of Representatives.

If your club passes a resolution of support for this bill, that's fine, *but be sure your representative knows about the resolution!* Send him/her a copy, and include the full names, addresses and cities of all those who voted in favor of the resolution. *Do not, however, neglect or underestimate the importance of individual letters!*

For what it may (or may not) be worth, I wrote to my congressman (Scott Klug) on April 24, and I have received no response at all, not even the usual, non-committal "I will keep your comments in mind" form letter.

Wisconsin has nine representatives in the House. Only two of those have signed as cosponsors of H.R. 73. If we want to call the bill to the atten-

Can't wait for next year. We are going mobile in 1992.

- KA9LOE (ND9Z team)

Really enjoy the contest. Nice way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Wife goes shopping and I get on the air.

- WB9MSM

Tnx fer a great event (and tnx fer those great cartoons JOE - editor).

- W9ODV

Had a lot of fun but spent too much time convincing other stations that I was not KB9QL.

- KD9QL

Thanks for a great contest. Looking forward to next year when I can operate the entire event.

- N9RO

Where was Nev, Ala, Hawaii when you need them?

- WA9TZE

In 1972 the Wisconsin QSO Party was held Feb 12. I placed second CW with 633 points. W9YT had 636 points

(first place winner) for a new record. Your party is more fun.

- WA9YSD

Because of business travel this is the only contest I have time to enter. Two years ago from Canada. Last year from Bayfield County. This year tried multi-op with Christ (one of the best CW operators I know). Had a great time.

- NI9Z (W9RF team)

A fun time as usual though I didn't get started until almost 3 hours after the start. Hope everyone enjoyed my phonetics. Consider the WQP among the top 3 in my book.

- N0BSH

The QSO Party is ranked in the top throughout the country.

- KI0F

I think this was the most enjoyable state QSO party I ever participated in and there have been quite a few over the years. It was short and the participation by Wisc stations was terrific. It made me proud to be an old Badger (W9HMU).

- W0KMH

NWRC	8428
FALL CREEK CONTEST CLUB	7755
MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB	7556
OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB	6384
WISCONSIN AMATEUR CONTEST ORGANIZATION	5076
WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	2688
MADISON AREA REPEATER ASSOCIATION	1035

* CERTIFICATE

1992 Wisconsin QSO Party

Sunday, March 8, 1992

Sponsored by the West
Allis Radio Amateur Club



tion of the other seven, we will have to stop whispering, and start YELLING.

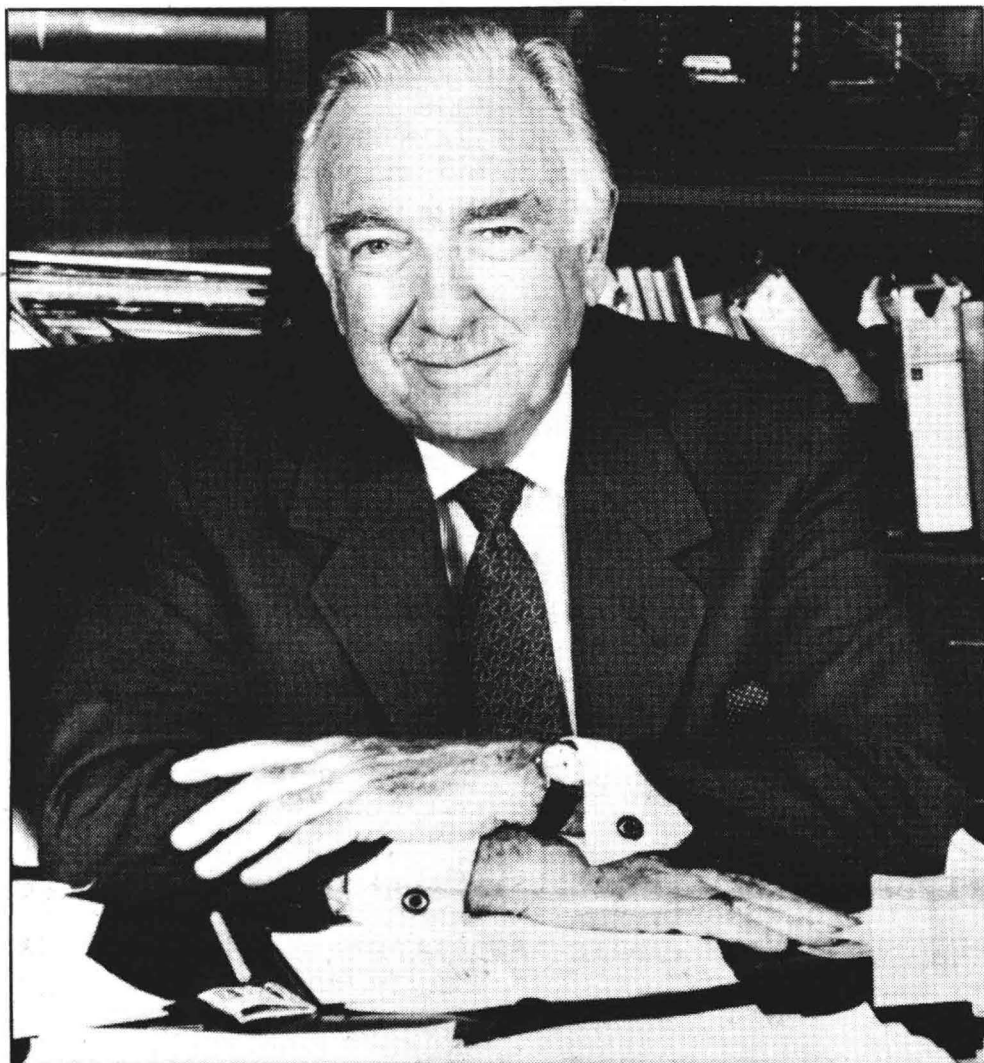
- K9ZZ

• THE NORTHERN WISCONSIN RADIO CLUB'S information does not appear this month. No material was received.

• An FCC public notice (May 13) makes it clear that amateurs are expected to be entirely off 220-222 MHz by Aug. 27. "Requests for waiver of the rules to permit continued amateur station operation in this band will generally not be viewed favorably," the Commission said.

- Excerpted from *The ARRL Letter*, 5/16/91

Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD: Boy Scout Telegraphy Merit Badge Led to Ham License



Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD

(Editor's note: When we learned that one of the most distinguished newsmen in the United States had become a radio amateur, we sent him a letter in which we asked how he had become interested in Amateur Radio, and for a photo of him at his station. Here is his most interesting response.)

"Dear Jim:

"I know you must have despaired of ever receiving this letter. Frankly, your request got buried in a huge pile of correspondence that accumulated during an overseas trip, and I am just now catching up.

"I became interested in telegraphy to qualify for a Boy Scout merit badge, obviously many, many years ago. My friends and I trailed a line around our neighborhood and had a pretty active network going.

"When I began yachting some years ago, my interest in Morse transmission and amateur radio was revived and, with the encouragement of some ardent hams here at CBS, I got my novice license.

"I thought I would have a great hobby on the boat and in retirement. Unfortunately, I haven't quite got a handle on this so-called semi-retirement. It seems to be far more semi than retirement, and I haven't had time to pursue amateur radio. Not quite yet, but I'm still hoping.

"I regret that I don't have a picture of me at my simple rig. The enclosed (above) is the best I can do.

"Sincerely, Walter Cronkite"

FCC Survey Seeks to Link Amateur Power, RFI

The Federal Communications Commission has released data gathered during its Feb. 26-27 Amateur Power Project ("power audits"), and has concluded that:

- "Most amateurs do not operate at the minimum [power] required by the rules;
- Operating powers of 100 watts or less can cause interference;
- Simply reducing the transmitter power does not alleviate interference in most cases."

In its instructions for the survey to field offices, the FCC stated only one purpose, "to see if [amateur radio stations] are using minimum operating power as required by Section 97.313(a) of the rules."

But the Commission's executive summary of the study, just released, added an additional purpose, to "see if there is a link between operating power and interference to home electronic entertainment equipment."

Three methods were used to select the 209 amateur stations that were subsequently observed:

Method A was to visit a station for which a consumer complaint had been received by the Commission (31 stations);

Method B was to select a station that was being "monitored in operation" (42 stations); and

Method C was a random selection by various means (133 stations).

FCC field offices were instructed to visit the amateur stations and to "rate the quality of communications as though you were the other amateur." Following a power measurement, the operators were asked to reduce their power by half and to continue or reestablish the QSO, whereupon the FCC field office personnel again would rate the "quality of communication."

Power reductions ranged from 1500/525 watts (on 20 meters) to 8/3 watts (on 6 meters). This latter measurement was taken at a station creating RFI; the interference was observed dropping from "heavy to light."

In most cases, reducing output power by half or more resulted in little or no loss of communications, by Commission staffers' reckoning. The data released by the Commission, however, does not indicate the *type* of contacts being made - local or DX? Strong signal or weak? Level of interference from adjacent stations? Mode of transmission?

In 23 cases where RFI was observed, reductions in power resulted in less interference in 10 cases, in no change in 11 cases, and RFI actually was observed to *increase* at the lower power level in two cases.

In other cases, no interference was checked for or none was observed.

Interference - where found - was spread among all bands 80 - 6 meters. Of the 209 station visits and subsequent power measurements, the breakdown by frequency bands was as follows:

Band	3.5	7	14	18	21	28	50	144
Stations	16	39	66	1	31	44	1	1

The Amateur Power Project, conducted by the FCC's Field Operations Bureau, has not yet been commented on by the Commission's Private Radio Bureau.

- The ARRL Letter, 5/16/91

Assassination Victim in India was Radio Amateur

Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India, and candidate for that office again until his assassination by a bomb explosion on May 21, 1991, was a radio amateur. His call sign was VU2RG.

Gandhi's widow, Sonia, is also a radio amateur; her call sign is VU2SON.

- Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, with
help from Paul Goemans, WA9PWP

Washington State Amateur Hailed in Sea Rescue

A Washington state amateur has been credited with saving the lives of two boaters, in the process strengthening ties between local amateurs and their police departments.

Ev Paschal, KF7VX, lives on tiny (1 x 2 mi.) Sinclair Island, near Anacortes, Washington. Sinclair Island has neither electric nor telephone service. On the windy morning of April 3, Paschal was getting ready for his daily schedule with hams on nearby Guemes and Fidalgo Islands, when he saw a 20-ft. powerboat dead in the water near his house.

"I got out my telescope for a better look," Paschal said, "and there was a guy in the water, clinging to an overturned dinghy."

Paschal used 2 meters to call Les Killingsworth, W7IDX, on Whidby Island, then informed Bob Brown, NM7M, on Guemes, who telephoned the U.S. Coast Guard.

"With our repeater on Mt. Erie, ham radio is more reliable than marine radio," Paschal said.

Paschal launched his own boat, and as he did he saw a 12-year-old boy launching a dinghy. That turned out to be Nathan Nusslock, who was on his way to help Mark Nusslock, who was in the water, the *Anacortes American* reported.

Paschal took both father and son aboard his boat and returned them, cold and wet but unharmed, to shore.

Paschal, who is 45 and president of the Radio Amateurs of Skagit County, received a plaque from the Anacortes Police Department for his rescue effort.

"I wish to convey my thanks and offer congratulations," said Anacortes Chief of Police Tony Lippe, "on your life saving effort off Sinclair Island this past month."

"As you know," Lippe said, "the Anacortes Police Department is endeavoring to establish an emergency communication network with the local chapter of the Radio Amateurs of Skagit County. We are still in the planning stage [and proposed equipment] would allow our Department and the amateur radio operators to work together to further serve the needs of our community."

"I firmly believe that amateur radio operators are a most valuable resource," Chief Lippe said, "and are unsurpassed in their expertise and dedication where emergency communications are needed

that are above the normal channels readily available to law enforcement."

Ev Paschal moved to Sinclair Island three years ago after two decades as a research associate at Stanford University. He holds a doctorate in electrical engineering from Stanford and is now doing research in very low frequencies and "whistlers."

"I moved here for the radio quiet," he says. "The nearest power line is five miles away," an important consideration for someone listening to frequencies between 300 hertz and 30 KHz.

Sinclair Island has six year-round residents, Paschal says. More come to visit during the warmer months; two of them have Paschal to thank for being rescued.

- The ARRL Letter, 5/16/91

March New License Figures

New licenses issued by the FCC in March, the first full calendar month of codeless Technician Class availability, were as follows: Novice, 1,734; Technician, 882; General, 31; Advanced, 5; Extra, 4 (for a total of 2,656). FCC has no breakdown of codeless vs. traditional Technician licenses issued. Since actual licensing always lags license applications, it actually is too early to assess the effect of the new license class.

Note that the figures above are for *new* licenses. Also in March, 2,216 amateurs upgraded, including 1,079 to Tech., 526 to General, 371 to Advanced, and 240 to Extra.

- The ARRL Letter, 5/16/91

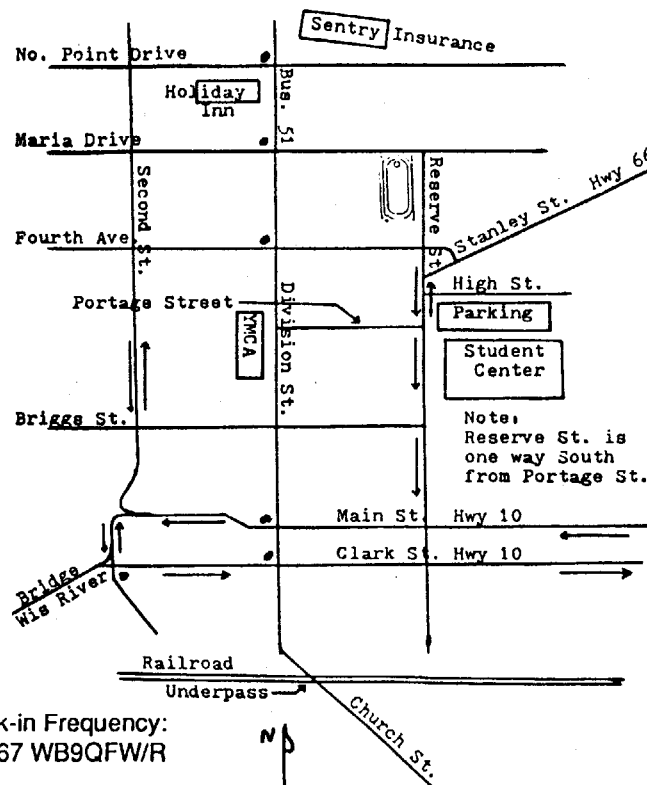
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- Free Parking (UW Lots)
- Seminars
- FCC Exams
- Cafeteria Service
- YL Activities



Admission \$2

- 6:30 am - Vendors set-up
- 8:00 am - Swapfest opens
- 9:00 am - Resistive & reactive networks - (K9DB)
- 10:00 am - FCC exam session*
- 10:00 am - Packet synthesizer demo 1 (WD9BCH)
- 11:00 am - WAPRA meeting
- 11:30 am - Packet synthesizer demo 2
- 12:00 pm - Introduction to packet (WAPRA)
- 12:30 pm - Packet synthesizer demo 3
- 1:30 pm - Prize drawings
- TBA - YL Activities
- * Be sure to bring:
 1. Original license
 2. Photocopy of license
 3. Check to ARRL/VEC for \$5.25

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New 222-225 MHz Band Plan is Adopted

At its Annual Meeting, held in Dayton, Ohio, the Mid-America Coordination Council (MACC) adopted a new 220 MHz Band Plan, reflecting the pending two Megahertz reduction in the amateur frequency allocation within this spectrum segment.

MACC member states are Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

The MACC Band Plan is hereby changed to reflect the following frequency usage agreement in the 222.000 to 225.000 MHz Amateur Frequency Allocation. The new MACC 222-225 MHz Band Plan is printed below.

- Thanks Dave Knaus, WA9POV

MACC 220 MHz Band Plan

Segment	Use
222.000 -- 222.150	Weak Signal: EME, CW, SSB
222.050 -- 222.060	Beacons (?)
222.100 -- 222.150	Novice weak signal
222.150 -- 222.250	Local Option: Weak Signal or Repeater Inputs (Favor weak signal if no repeater inputs already exist - No new FM repeater coordinations in this band segment)
222.250 -- 223.380	FM Repeater Inputs Only
223.400 -- 223.750	FM Simplex and Packet
223.40, 223.42, 223.44, and 223.58	Local Option: 1200 Baud Packet
223.500	FM Simplex: National Calling Frequency
223.47 and 223.55	Local Option: 9600 Baud Packet Trunks
223.600 -- 223.750	Local Option: FM Simplex or Packet (May be reserved for National 56 Kbaud Packet Trunk)
223.750 -- 223.850	Local Option: FM Simplex, Packet, or Repeater Output
223.850 -- 224.980	Repeater Outputs Only

Control Link Frequencies: It is suggested that, due to the transient nature of over-the-air repeater control, that such operation be conducted in the 10 KHz channels between the repeater input frequencies, and that CTCSS Tone Control be used at all times for such operations. It is further suggested that the use of this bandplan is not conducive to the operation of repeater AUDIO control links, at least in major metropolitan areas, and that this use of the band as such is thus discouraged.

Ratified and adopted by unanimous vote of the Directors present at the Mid-America Coordination Council Annual Meeting, held in Dayton, Ohio, on Friday, April 26, 1991.

George R. Isely, WD9GIG, Secretary
Mid-America Coordination Council, Inc.

FCC Sends Message to Packet BBS Operators

On January 25, 1991, the Federal Communications Commission's Norfolk, VA field office sent Notices of Violation to eight east coast packet BBS operators, issuing Notices of Apparent Liability (fines) for \$300 to three others.

On April 17, the FCC cancelled the fines, but withdrew unattended operation privileges for three of the 11.

One of the operators had allegedly originated, and the other ten had handled through their unattended Amateur Radio computer bulletin boards an "@USA" (all USA) message that urged readers to phone a 900 number to "vote" on a political issue, namely the presence of US troops in the Middle East.

"This activity," FCC's Norfolk Engineer-in-Charge J.J. Freeman, W4JJ, said in his letter to the amateurs, "was a facilitation of the business affairs of the Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in the Middle East and therefore in violation of Section 97.113(a)."

Notices of Violation stipulated that each recipient, within ten days, reply to the FCC with the following:

- A full explanation of "the circumstances of the violation."
- A specific description of the action taken to correct and to prevent recurrence of the violation.

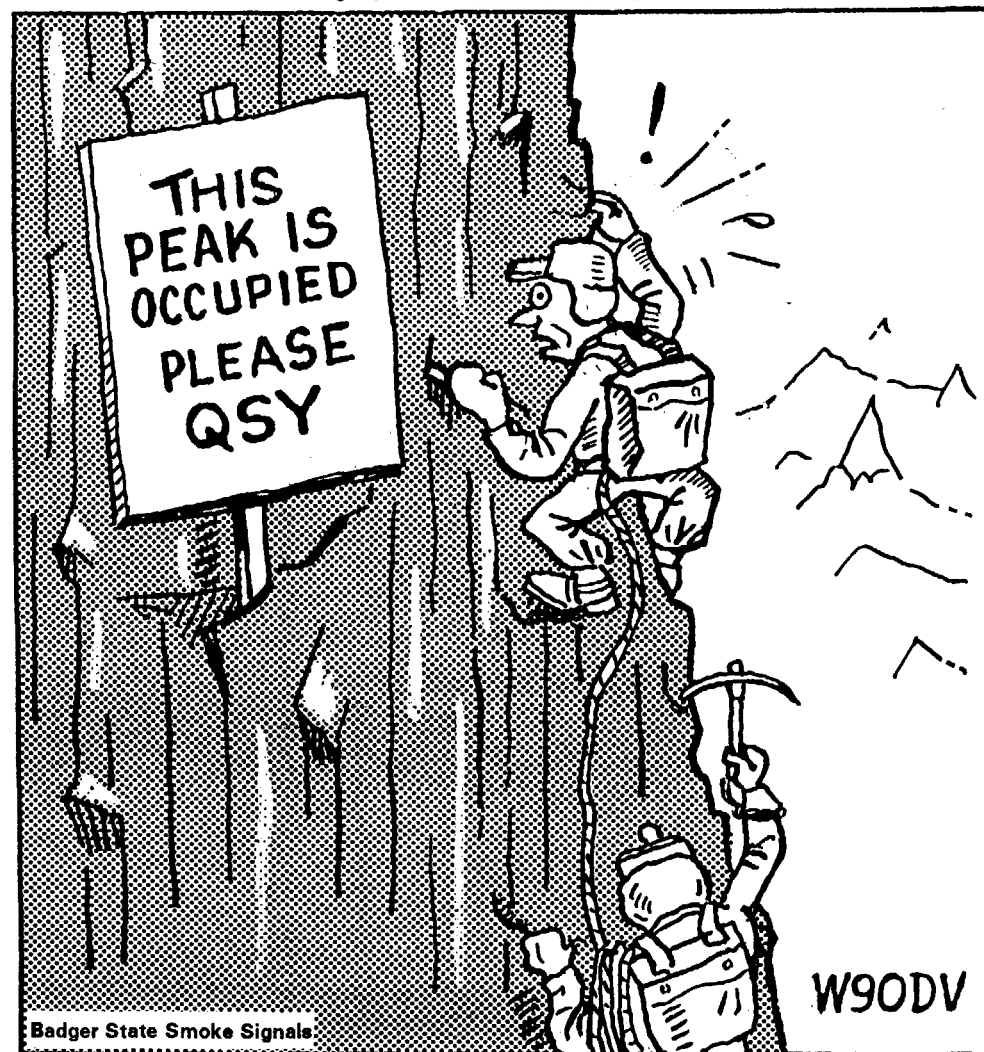
The \$300 fines were levied against the alleged originator of the message (WA3QNS) and the operators of the stations where the message entered and exited the packet system (N3LA and KJ4LQ).

Most of the PBBS SysOps responded in part to the FCC notices by saying that they had policed themselves in this instance; a "SYSOP alert" had notified them of the offending message and they then pulled it from the system (but not before someone had brought the matter to the attention of the FCC).

Most of the SysOps also told the Commission they now were taking additional steps to screen at least some messages, especially those for general distribution, before accepting them.

Please turn to page 16

FIELD DAY





John's Book Shelf

By John W. Frank, WB9TQG
P.O. Box 5113
Madison, WI 53705

WIFB's Design Notebook
Published by the ARRL
195 pages • \$10.00

This book is an experimenter's delight. However, it does not belong on your bookshelf, sandwiched in between the *QRP Notebook* and *WIFB's Antenna Notebook*. *WIFB's Design Notebook* belongs on the workbench with a piece of hookup wire as a bookmark.

The six chapters in this book cover solid state devices, their uses, construction practices, receivers, and transmitters. Erudite discussions are avoided in favor of practical explanations of how circuit stages work, and what might happen if the builder makes a mistake. The text is supplemented by 119 drawings and schematics, four photos, twelve tables, and eighteen equations.

Chapter four (Construction Practices) is my favorite. It explains the difference between carbon composition and carbon film resistors. It describes what happens if a tantalum capacitor is installed with the wrong polarity. In fact, much of chapter four is devoted to choosing and using components. When should a builder use polystyrene capacitors instead of disk ceramic? The answer is in chapter four.

Who would I recommend this book to? This book is oriented to homebrewers and experimenters. However, people who don't experiment or homebrew might benefit from reading *WIFB's Design Notebook* because it can serve as such a painless introduction to another aspect of the Amateur Radio hobby. Is there anyone who shouldn't read this book? Well, I suppose someone who doesn't homebrew or experiment and doesn't own any tools might not be too interested in reading *WIFB's Design Notebook*. But, that's not to say they wouldn't learn something from it and develop a better understanding of what is inside their factory-built, multi-band, multi-mode transceivers.

Some rainy day when the bands are dead and the TV shows are all reruns, please read a book. Literacy is valuable. □

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Reading the Mail

All License Class Family

We are pleased to announce that for the second time in two years that at least one family member holds an amateur license of novice through amateur extra class. The latest member of our family to attain a license is our youngest son Keith. He has recently passed the novice exam and does not have a call issued at this time.

We had this distinction two years ago when my wife Annette, KB9CPZ passed her novice exam in April of 1989. This distinction was short lived though when she upgraded to technician in June of 1989. Keith is diligently studying for the technician

exam currently. He will be trying for the technician license on May 1 so the distinction for this second time may not last long enough for a call to be issued before he upgrades.

There are now seven licensed amateurs in the family. At the present time two of them hold technician class licenses, and two of us hold amateur extra class licenses. Five of us live in the Milwaukee area. The other two members, our daughter and son-in-law live in the New Orleans area and we hold regular schedules with them.

The seven of us are: Myself Ron, K9WTF, Annette, KB9CPZ, Ronald, WB9WBV, Darrell, WD9HTG, Ken, WI5Z, Lynnette, KB5ACB, and Keith KB9????. Please give us a call if you hear us on the bands. Except for Keith we are all presently active to some degree, with some members only having 2 meter equipment.

Ronald W. Hooker, K9WTF

ANNUAL EAU CLAIRE HAMFEST! and Computer Expo

Sponsored by
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Saturday, July 27, 1991

- Packet Meeting at 10:30 a.m. with live demo • \$3.00 at Door
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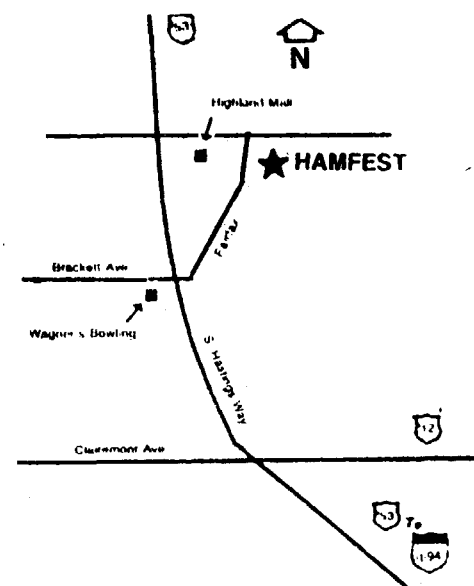
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Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Rolland Walty, W9LEE, Secretary

W4117 Highway 102 • Westboro, WI 54490

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio News

By Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ
P.O. Box 401
Abbotsford, WI 54405-0401

Congratulations to:

- Scott Young, N9FZS, of Colby, who was selected by the ARRL Foundation, Newington, CT to receive the \$500.00 Edmond A. Metzger Scholarship for the 1990-1991 academic year. Scott is a fourth year student, majoring in electrical engineering at the Milwaukee School of Engineering, where he is also president of the school's Amateur Radio club. Scott is a member of the Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club. He is the son of Louis, KA9-UXN.

- Matt Mehner, KA9WDC, of Dorchester, who graduated December 18, 1990, from North-central Technical College, Wausau, with a two-year Associate Degree in Machine Tooling Technics. He is the son of Ernie, WD9FWP.

- Ray, N9IDW, Lublin, who upgraded from General to Advanced Class at the VE test session held April 13 at Eau Claire. Ray says he's working on his Extra Class now.

- Rollie, W9LEE, Westboro, who upgraded from General to Advanced Class at the VE test session held January 26 at Tomahawk.

- Tom, N9GEN, Medford, who passed the written portion of the Extra Class exam at the VE test session held October 27, 1990 at Tomahawk, and then passed the 20 WPM code test to upgrade from Advanced to Extra Class at the VE test session held on January 26 at Tomahawk. 'Way to go, Tom!

- Orville Lieders, WH6BVT, of Colby, who passed the exams to qualify for a Novice Class Amateur Radio license. Orville passed his exams while in Hawaii a few years ago, which explains why he has a 'WH6' callsign. It was just recently learned that he now has an Amateur Radio license. Welcome to the wonderful world of Amateur Radio, Orville!

- Michael Brennan of Neillsville, who passed the exams to qualify for a Technician Class Amateur Radio license, with 5 WPM code endorsement, at the VE test session held on April 27 at Marshfield. He also happens to be a judge for Clark County.

Bits and Pieces

- For those who haven't already heard, former rural Abbotsford resident George, WA9BUV, upgraded from Technician to Advanced Class at a VE test session held in Stevens Point in the latter half of 1990. Congratulations, George!

George is presently residing in Wausau.

- Did any club members or other area hams hear (or maybe even communicate with) any Amateur Radio operators aboard the space Shuttle Atlantis during its April, 1991 mission? If so, contact N9GHZ with the details. To date, there have been no reports from anyone having even heard the shuttle.

- For those who haven't already heard, Bernie, KA9WDX, has relocated, at least temporarily, to Wausau. He is not presently able to get into the 147.15 Medford repeater from Wausau, but he can be heard from time to time on the Wausau area repeaters.

- Louis, KA9WXN, Colby, made quite a haul at the Midwinter Madness Swapfest held Saturday, February 9 at Robbinsdale, MN, in the Twin Cities metro area. Louis purchased some raffle tickets for prize drawings, and came away with a "Satellite City" T-shirt, a *Radio Amateur's Antenna Handbook*, a copy of the 1991-92 *ARRL Repeater Directory*, and a 10th anniversary baseball cap. Some people have all the luck!

- N9GHZ had an opportunity to speak with Tim Primeau, KA9SMN, of rural Curtiss, during the past Christmas holidays. Tim, who completed the first Novice Class license course taught by N9GHZ, was home from college for the holidays. Tim is attending the University of Wisconsin at Platteville, and is working toward a B.S. degree in radio-TV broadcasting with a minor in journalism. He is six credits from his degree yet.

He had been working for 1 1/2 years as a part-time master control engineer for KDUB-TV, channel 40, an ABC affiliate in Dubuque, Iowa, and is presently working as a part-time news photographer for WMTV, channel 15, an NBC affiliate in Madison, WI. This work means that he operates cameras or camcorders for on-site news reports, which must be very interesting work! Anyone wishing to correspond with Tim can write him at 760 Union Street, Platteville, WI 53818. □

The minutes of the Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club's May meeting are on page 21.

FCC vs. Packet BBS Operators

Continued from page 14

One of the SysOps received the following reply from Engineer Freeman:

"We have carefully reviewed your letter and, inasmuch as you have stated you have taken corrective action to prevent a repeat of the violation, no further action will be taken at this time."

Freeman did not agree with the argument presented by some of the amateurs that the responsibility for message screening should lie with the originating station. "The concept of control of an amateur station.... is not severable into technical control, content control of messages the licensee originates, and content control of messages originated by other users," Freeman said.

"The Commission licenses individual amateur stations," Freeman said, "not systems of amateur stations. Further, all amateur service rules apply to each amateur station even when it is operating in a system, not to the system as a whole. Station licensees and station control operators, therefore, are both responsible for the messages originated as well as those retransmitted by the station."

Freeman's response reflects the same reasoning used by the FCC in Docket 90-561, declining the ARRL request for rule making to permit automatic control when third party communications are being transmitted.

- The ARRL Letter, May 2, 1991

Petitions Ask FCC to Clarify Packet SysOp Responsibility

More than 50 petitions have now been filed with the FCC, seeking clarification of responsibility for messages sent through digipeaters, packet bulletin boards, and voice repeaters. At (*Westlink Report*) press time, only four of these petitions have been formally accepted for commentary. As reported, RM-7649 by Tom Blackwell, N5GAR, and Joe Jarrett, K5FOG, seeks a shared responsibility concept, with the majority of the responsibility for communications content falling on the originating station.

Now come RM-7669 by James N. Howard, Jr., N4WBO; RM-7675 from Douglas E. Smith, W9WI (of Nashville, TN; formerly of Madison, WI, and a BBS SysOp there - BSSS ed.); and RM-7676. All three seek to exonerate the repeater licensee or packet digipeater/BBS from holding responsibility for the regulatory violations of user stations.

- *Westlink Report*, April 26, 1991

Badger State Smoke Signals Club Deal

For as low as \$5.80 per member per year, *Badger State Smoke Signals* can serve your club's members as your club's newspaper. Your club's minutes, news, and photos will be published for you every month. For more information, contact Ken Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Tr., Portage, WI 53901, (608) 742-3560.

RFI Oddities

If a color TV reacts to your Amateur Radio transmissions, you have TVI. Some folks have unwittingly taken this reaction a step further to interfere with BC radios, FM HI-FIs, telephones, computers, VCRs, CDs, and electronic organs. Yet, there is a small group of pioneers who are most creative.

For example, take N9AW, Jerry, of Cudahy, please. He must remain alert to his neighbor's electronically controlled garage doors, which may open and close in step with his on-the-air activities. Jerry has nearly completed requirements for his Worked All Garage Doors award.

WB9TNF, Bob in South Milwaukee, activates his own telephone answering machine and leaves himself some garbled messages. If Bob could ungarble those calls, he would have an automatic logging device!

W9DMI, "Worked All Lamps" Carl of South Milwaukee, sheds a little light on the RFI subject, too. One of his home's touch-base activated lamps changes brightness when he is on the air. It's easy for neighbors to tell when Carl is on CW.

WK9E, Dave of Elm Grove, reports helping a friend (we've heard that line before) who had furnace RFI. The home hydronic heating copper pipes and fins somehow rectify RF, and then make loud or quiet noises, depending on the temperature setting and the amount of RF. How heart warming!

Dave also mentions a neighbor's garage fluorescent light which flashes to the RF of certain bands and modes. Another neighbor has a low-wattage incandescent night-light that glows when Dave is transmitting.

Neighbors frequently blame interference on the person with the biggest antenna in the block, even if Mr. or Mrs. Big Antenna isn't home or isn't on the air. With that concept in mind, Dave now uses an 80-meter rain gutter antenna, an insulated wire running in the gutter; that baffles the neighbors' blame, but works well.

The variety of possible RF problems creates interesting discussions at club meetings and hamfests. As Henry Kaiser said, "Problems are only opportunities in work clothes."

Thanks to those hams for sharing these stories. If you have an RFI oddity, let's hear about it.

- Rich Regent, K9GDF

5003 S. 26th St., Milwaukee, WI 53221

ARES Hams Assist During Madison Fire

Continued from page 4

being used to move cots, blankets, coffee, and other items to the shelters.

In spite of some initial confusion, largely caused by the fact that Red Cross officials were out of town at a meeting, the ARES operation went well, and valuable service was rendered by ARES.

During the course of the evacuation, Bill Paxson, KA9OTV, and John Offerdahl, KC9XH, were alerted and were standing by for possible relief duty.

The immense grease fire burned for several days, and the resulting odor was noticeable all over the City of Madison and the surrounding area. The main

warehouse was reduced to twisted beams of steel and corrugated metal. Two other warehouses were also damaged, but firefighters did manage to save the refrigeration house and two other warehouses.

The fire left the landscape a muddy, slippery, gooey, lava-like mixture of grease, butter, cheese and lard. More than 120 firefighters had fought the fire for several days. Damage to the buildings and their contents totalled over \$100 million.

Firefighters, along with their hoses and equipment, were covered with slimy goo. Some fire trucks were buried to their axles in the muck. The huge amount of fatty glop from more than 14 million pounds of what was once frozen food leaves a cleanup of immense proportions yet to be done (much of the goo is being salvaged, to be processed into animal feed), the result of what has been called Madison's worst and most costly fire in history. □

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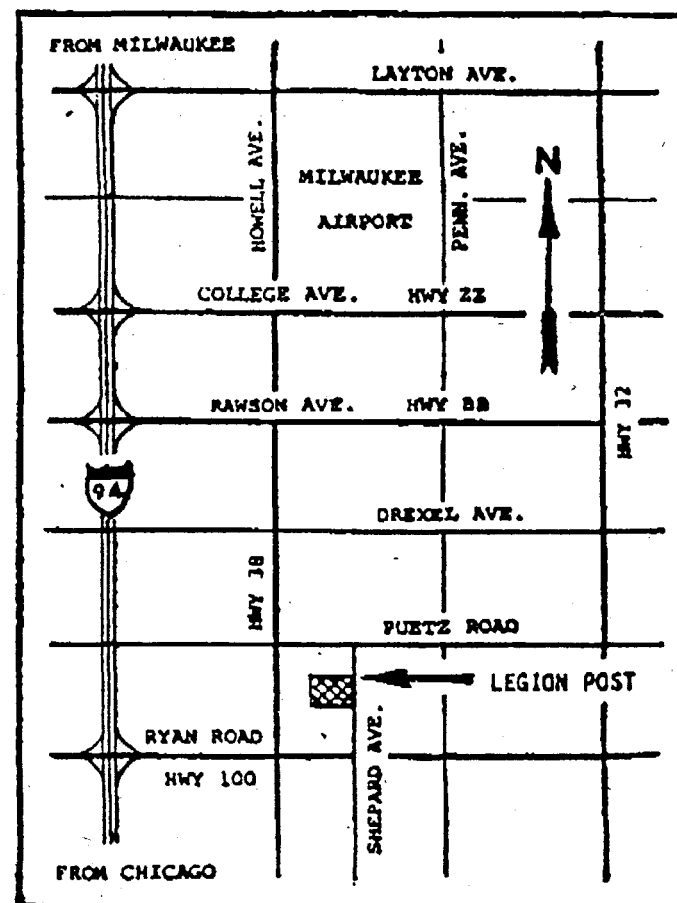
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Members are reminded that we will use Room D217, UWSP Science Building, for our June and July meetings.

Minutes of May 8, 1991 meeting of the Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs at UWSP

(Submitted by Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ)

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by President KA9LAQ.

The roll included:

N9IAT	Mike Smith
KA9WEQ	Wendy Mangal
N9ICY	Mark Nemzoff
KA9TTU	Joe Mangal
N9JW	Joe Larson
W9NN	Bob Baird
WD9JID	Mike Eiden
KE9IA	Gordon Miller
N9CGV	Joe Omernik
N9JQR	Frank B. Podach
W9BCC	Frank Guth
N9BCA	Art Wysocki
KE9MA	Gene Kroll
N9KNE	John Kinney
N9EIL	Debra Kroll
Visitor	Brian Kinney (N9KNE)
KA9FAS	Mary Eiden
KF9BG	Ray Dix
N9JQU	Dave Olson
KA9LAQ	Mike Pagel
KB9DUR	Adriana Dix
KB9???	Sara Weisensel
KA9ACE	Jim Benak
WA9LWJ	John Feltz
Visitor	Mary Olson (KA9ACE)
K9DB	Paul Nelles
KB9???	Mike Urban

Secretary/Treasurer KF9BG (Ray) gave an updated assessment of the treasury, and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Raffle prizes are now paid for!

N9JW reported that the club's decision some months ago to put copies of *Tune in the World With Ham Radio* had resulted in a new Novice! Mike

Urban has passed both code and written portions of the exam by studying on his own with the help of those materials in the library (as Joe spoke, Mike Urban entered the room and received an enthusiastic welcome). Joe checked local libraries and found them to be quite weak in amateur radio materials. Following the SWAPFEST, we will investigate the possibility of donating *QST* subscriptions to libraries in the area. Joe also reminded everyone of ARRL VEC exams offered at our upcoming SWAPFEST.

Joe also announced that N9JWO (Sam Larson) is a member of a science competition team selected from a local school for national competition in Kentucky. Congratulations, Sam!!!

Joe received thanks from the group for his article in the May *BSSS* on volunteer activities for Hams at the Special Olympics Summer Games in Stevens Point. Thanks are also due to the editors for publishing his article.

N9BCA distributed raffle tickets in association with our upcoming SWAPFEST. CWRA members not attending the meeting will soon receive their tickets in the mail. Since this raffle is our biggest source of operational revenue, Art asked that all do their best to sell the tickets and reminded them to turn in stubs and cash (or unsold tickets) by 10 AM on June 16th!!!! Our club dues have not increased since 1977 because of the money raised through this raffle.

Art reminded everyone of the need for help at SWAPFEST, especially with ticket sales, unloading and reloading vendor wares (6 AM and 1:30 PM). Art asked for and got direction on the Ham raffle prize. He will obtain a 2 meter mobile rig.

W9NN received applause for his many years of service to the SWAPFEST as a ticket salesman.

KA9TTU asked that ALL volunteers for the Special Olympics complete and submit the Volunteer registration form. Call W9BCC at 344-2566 if you wish to sign up. We need volunteers for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 28-30. Volunteer Orientation/Update meetings will be held on the evenings of June 25 and 26 (Tuesday and Wednesday). Volunteers should attend one of these meetings to be briefed.

K9DB added that volunteers under the age of 16 will require chaperones as of 1991.

KA9LAQ reminded everyone that he has several lengths of 1/2" hardline available in lengths of 50-110 feet. He also has a cheap and reliable coax fitting adaptor that works!

KA9ACE reported on the recent Tornado Simulation organized by Emergency Government. Ten

Coming Events

June 12 - Club meeting - Room , Room #D217 Science Building, UWSP

June 16 - SWAPFEST/FCC exams (UWSP University Center)

June 22-23 - Field Day!

June 28, 29, 30 - (Special Olympics Summer Games)

July 10 - Club meeting, Room #D217 Science Building, UWSP

August - Annual Fox Hunt/Cookout (Date to be announced)

September 11 - Club meeting and Annual Elections

hams answered the call on short notice. Jim is modifying some procedures to make such events even smoother, whether they be real or imaginary.

W9BCC announced that this was the last opportunity to order Club shirts before the Olympics. Six shirts were ordered, but he needs more in order to have the job done!

WA9LWJ proposed a new site for Field Day north of Junction City near Highway 34 on property offered for our use by WA9N. We rejected use of the Manufacturer's Direct Mall site in order to avoid RFI and related noise problems. Consensus emerged that favored our original site near the W9NN QTH on the Wisconsin River. Members preferred access to indoor plumbing (Bob promises no price increase over the 1990 rate of 50 cents per flush - to encourage multiple use and minimal impact on his septic system) as well as the shorter trip to and from their respective homes. NE9U has offered his wall tent to the club. We have used Scott and Lori's tent to house our Field Day stations for several years.

KA9LAQ asked that members be prepared to discuss the nature of our Field Day effort at the June meeting. Do we want to hustle or take it easy? What is the theme of our involvement?

The meeting ended at 8:13 PM.

Thanks for reading and 73, de KA9LAQ. □

Amateur Radio Licenses Take on a New Look

Those old-style FCC licenses will fade away in a few years as the Commission replaces them with laser-printed tickets, according to an FCC press release. The new licenses began appearing in late April; a credit-card size as well as a 5x7-inch "document suitable for framing." Careful, though - laser ink can tend to stick or rub off; laminating your wallet-size license might be prudent.

- The ARRL Letter,
May 2, 1991

Racine Megacycle Club

Arne Moxness, KA9ZPY, Secretary

3345 Newman Road • Racine, WI 53406

Racine Megacycle Club Meeting May 15, 1991

President Dave, WB9USI, opened the meeting at 7:30 PM. The April meeting minutes were approved as shown in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

Present at the meeting were approx. 20 members.

Dave, WB9ZIO, gave the treasurer's report. New balance is \$374.13.

Old Business

President Dave, WB9USI, informed the club that we have now gotten permission to use Armstrong Park for this year's Field Day (June 22,23). Jim, KB9CCY, has looked into improved arrangement for heating of the tents if it gets cold. Dave asked for some help in setting up a packet radio station, since the club gets an extra 100 points for using packet. Dick, W5ONL, will help. At next month's meeting, a sign up sheet will be made available for those hams who will help out during the 24 hrs. run.

New Business

Next month's meeting will be about:

1.) Computer crime, and will be held by a representative from the Racine Police Department.

2.) There will also be a representative from the Racine Telecable Corporation who will give a talk about telecommunication fraud.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

The "Goody" box was given to Cheryl, WS9P.

President Dave, WB9USI, then introduced the speaker for the evening, Carl, N9BYS. Carl held an informal meeting about his interesting experiences as a Bulletin Board System Operator. He fielded many questions from the listeners, and gave a detailed explanation about the letter code used in packet. After his program, which ended about 10:00, Dave, WB9USI, showed how packet worked for some hams who stayed behind. Dave had brought down his own packet station for the occasion. We want to thank him especially for that.

Calendar • Courtesy of Racine Megacycle Club

Jun 8	Lighthouse Run
Jun 9	Swapfest at Willow Springs
Jun 10	Megacycle Meeting
Jun 16	Swapfest at Stevens Point
Jun 22, 23	Field Day, Armstrong Park
Jun 23	Swapfest at Dupage, Ill.
Jun 28	Fox Hunt

Jul 6	Swapfest at South Milw.
Jul 8	Megacycle Meeting
Jul 13, 14	Racine Bicycle Club, New Glarus
Jul 14	Swapfest at Downers Grove
Jul 20	Swapfest at Hilbert
Jul 26	Fox Hunt
Jul 27	Swapfest at Eau Claire
Jul 30	Lakeshore Repeater Association Meeting

Aug 4	Southeast ARES Picnic
Aug 10	Swapfest at Rhinelander
Aug 11	Swapfest at Sugar Grove
Aug 12	Megacycle Meeting
Aug 18	QCWA Picnic
Aug 23	Fox Hunt

Arne, KA9ZPY, Club Secretary

Respectfully submitted:

Arne, KA9ZPY, Secretary

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

Carl Searing, W9NW, Secretary

1129 McKinley Road • Eau Claire, WI 54703-2219

Meeting Minutes May 14, 1991

This meeting was held at the Northern States Power Co. building on Barstow Street in Eau Claire. Arrangements for the visit were made by Bert Spangler, W9ZZI. About 31 members were present for the guided tour through the main Operations Center. The tour was very interesting, and gave a taste of the great complexity of the switching center.

The regular club meeting followed, and was held in the Company's lunch room.

The treasurer's report was given. The secretary's report was eliminated in the interest of saving time.

Jerry Marx, NG9A, our vice-president, is looking for volunteers to help with an upcoming bicycle race. Volunteers are to contact him.

It was announced that N9JMB, Jeff Sorte, has been appointed EC for Eau Claire County, and that N9ISN, Al Schlaugat, is now EC for Chippewa County. Both are ECARC members.

The club voted unanimously to have the secretary write to the FCC, conveying the club's opposition to any imposition of license fees.

There was considerable discussion of repeater ethics, as well as some comments on local autopatch use.

Since there are only two meetings left before our July 27 Hamfest, committees and volunteers for specific tasks were talked about for some time, with further planning to continue during the next meeting.

Members are reminded that Field Day will be held at N9ISN's farm west of Chippewa Falls, and that all are welcome.

WF9I, Tom King, said that he was interested in forming a radio club at Meadowbrook School, and that help in any form would be welcomed.

Lunch Committee: W9NNS, KC9NN, and WD9IY.

Meeting adjourned at about 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
W9NW, Secretary



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FOR SALE: Hammarlund HQ-170A Receiver in excellent condition. Includes matching speaker and instruction manual. \$150. Contact Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ, 1202 Elm Court, Stevens Point, WI 54481. Telephone: (715) 341-7346.

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Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

Duane Grotophorst, KA9HKL, Secretary

K9ODK
WB9FDZ

E5767 South Line Road • Loganville, WI 53943



Minutes of the May, 1991 YTARC Meeting

The meeting was held, with the following members and guests present:

Jim Decker, WB9UQT	Baraboo
Duane Grotophorst, KA9HKL	Loganville
Harry Westlund, K9EHJ	Baraboo
Bob Sauvan, WT9Q	Sauk City
Bill Klinkner, N9KXX	Sauk City
Harry Mayland, K9FFT	Baraboo
Harold Reif, KA9YQP	Baraboo
Art Kleefisch, W9WSS	Baraboo

The meeting was called to order by President Art Kleefisch, W9WSS, at 7:48 p.m.

The April minutes were approved, noting the misspelling of Rohbert Hemmer's first name as printed.

The treasurer's report was accepted, with the new balance reflecting recent bills.

A discussion was held about the status of the Novice/Technician classes and the progress of the students. We expect to have a few new licensees in the area because of the classes. I am looking into the possibility of holding a VE test session, and trying to contact other VE's to work with, since there are not enough in the YTARC membership for a team of three. A late June date would be the earliest we could hold a test session.

The YTARC meets in the Baraboo Civic Center, 2nd and Ash Streets, at 7:30 p.m. Upcoming meeting dates are:

Thursday, June 13
Tuesday, July 16

Room 24
Room 14

Art, W9WSS; Bill, N9KXX, and others will be setting up a station for the Boy Scout Jamboree at the Sauk County Fair Grounds on May 18, to allow Scouts to meet one of the requirements of the Radio Merit Badge.

Jim, WB9UQT, brought up the request for operators for the Freedom Days Parade at North Freedom (Memorial Day weekend), with several volunteering.

Field Day chairman is myself, and I have discussed some ideas with a few of the members that were present at the May meeting. If you have some ideas, be sure to come to the June meeting; that will be the Field Day planning session.

Buck Nite winner was Glenn Bennet, who was not present; next month, the booty will be \$2.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Duane Grotophorst, Secretary

Sauk County Area Hams Assist Madison C.A.P. Unit in "Downed Airplane" Search

At about 6 p.m. on Monday, April 29, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) notified the Madison, Wisconsin unit of the Civil Air Patrol that one of their satellites had picked up an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) signal in the vicinity of North Freedom, Wisconsin. The signal was confirmed by several commercial flights passing over the area.

For those of you who do not fly, the ELT is mounted in the airplane in such a way that a very hard landing or a crash will turn the transmitter on. The transmitter emits a signal which sounds very much like a yelping siren. It can continue to transmit for several days, depending on the age and condition of the ELT's built-in battery. ELTs transmit on the air traffic emergency frequency of 121.5 MHz.

CAP Controller Dorothy Douglas, KA9NXC (better known as "D.J."), got her CAP crew together. The FAA wanted them to fly, but the wind and weather conditions would not permit an aerial search.

Dorothy then got Jim Meilahn, WB9VNO, and crew on the road, headed to the Baraboo-Dells

Airport. After checking with the manager there, and with the manager of the Reedsburg Airport, it was determined that all of the airplanes which had flown that day were checked out and were "sterile".

Jim then headed out into the country with portable radio gear to try to locate the ELT, and kept in touch with D.J. on the Baraboo 146.88 MHz two-meter repeater.

At about that time, I tuned to the repeater to check on weather. I heard Jim and D.J. talking about small air strips in the area of North Freedom. They mentioned an old, private air strip on top of the Baraboo Bluffs, but they did not know its location. Being a pilot, and knowing the vicinity, I broke in and gave them the location of that strip, along with another one one-half mile south of it. I also gave them the names and telephone numbers of the owners of two or three other strips within a 20-mile radius.

At that time, Duane Grotophorst, KA9HKL, of Loganville, joined us in the conversation. He reported that he had checked out both airplanes on a private strip just south of town.

It was now about 9:15 p.m. I received a telephone call from Domenic Bianco, KA9QFK, of Reedsburg, who said he had been hearing the ELT for about four hours on his scanner. He told me that the signal was very strong at first, but it was getting weaker. I asked D.J. to contact Domenic and, after talking with him, she decided that the transmitting ELT almost certainly was at the Reedsburg Airport.

I gave D.J. the name of the airport's manager, and by 10 p.m. the search was over. An airplane which had not originally been considered a "suspect" was the source of the mysterious ELT beacon. The craft was for sale, had not been flown in several days, and was parked on the ramp. It was, however, the "crash" we had been looking for. Apparently the wind had bounced the airplane so hard, or lightning had struck so close, that the plane's ELT had been activated.

Everyone involved in the search was happy that there had not been a real crash, and that no one had been injured.

The Madison Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol thanks everyone who helped with the search.

- Bob King, KA9GNY
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Baraboo, WI 53913

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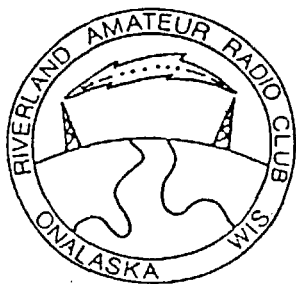


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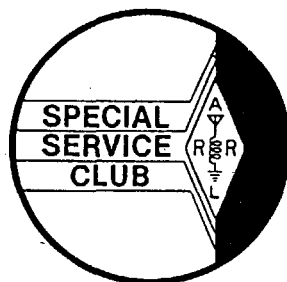
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Baraboo, WI 53913



Riverland Amateur Radio Club

Karl Simonson, KB9EQI, Secretary

P.O. Box 2251 • La Crosse, WI 54602-2251



The May meeting of the R.A.R.C. was called to order by President Walt Altus, WD9GCR, at 7:45 p.m. Guests were introduced. The secretary's report was read by Secretary Karl Simonson, KB9EQI, from the *Badger State Smoke Signals*. There were no additions or corrections. The secretary's report was approved as read. The treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Arby Boomer, WF9T. There were no corrections or additions. The treasurer's report was approved as read.

Old Business

A report was given and a handout was circulated by Dan, WC0V, detailing suggestions by the New Repeater Research Committee. These suggestions included an extended telephone line into La Crosse, a new repeater utilizing 2 meters or 440 MHz, and the addition of a digital voice recorder and audio delay line to the existing K0JYB repeater. Questions were heard and addressed. The committee was dismissed.

Van, WA9FIO, presented handouts and a report of the Trailer Committee, detailing the features and options sought in the proposed trailer. Discussion was heard on the need of restroom facilities and generator requirements, special equipment required to tow the trailer, storage, and maintenance. The entire committee was allowed to comment individually. Committee members were Van, WA9FIO, Chairman; Larry Kapp, WT9M; Dick Low, K0JYB; Kent Helman, W9LZQ; Nook Bentzen, K9EGO; and Scott Neader, KA9FOX. Greg, KA9FOZ, volunteered to store the proposed trailer and take care of holding tank drainage of the proposed trailer. Comments were heard on the possibility of alternative power sources from Ray, WA9HHM.

New Business

Van moved that the club purchase a trailer for club use and as a possible emergency communications vehicle. Karl seconded the motion. Feroz, WU9N, suggested that the motion be amended to include a clause stating that any non-club use should be previously approved by the club's membership. Van accepted the amendment. The motion was approved.

A committee was formed to contact vendors for the proposed trailer. Committee members are Nook, and Dallas Miller, K9LEC.

Dan moved, and Karl seconded, a motion to purchase an audio delay line and digital voice recorder for the K0JYB repeater. Discussion was heard. The motion was defeated.

Dean, KQ0C, moved for the purchase of a new repeater. Karl seconded the motion. Discussion was heard. The motion was defeated.

Feroz gave us a report on the club picnic details. The picnic will be Saturday, June 1st. It will be held at the shelter area of Granddad Bluff park in La Crosse from 2 o'clock until 9 p.m. **All area hams are invited!** Condiments and cooking facilities will be furnished by R.A.R.C. Everyone is asked to bring their own food and a dish to pass. A beer permit has been secured for those wishing to bring their own beer.

Feroz also suggested that the club have a mini-swap meet after the July meeting.

Rick, KV9U, made a motion to purchase a new coffee pot for the club. Charlie, KA9UUK, seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Dean introduced a late-arriving guest, Jess Meyer, from La Crescent, MN.

Charlie moved for adjournment.

Respectfully submitted:
Karl Simonson, KB9EQI, Secretary

Meeting Attendance

Jane Summers (Guest)	XYL-KQ0C
Walt Summers (Guest)	Son-KQ0C
Jess Meyer (Guest)	
Dick Low	K0JYB
Kent Helman	W9LZQ
Charlie Burch	KA9UUK
Dean Summers	KQ0C
Feroz Ghouse	WU9N
Jack Yoshizumi	W9KTD
Judy Williams	WA1TING
Rick Williams	KV9U
Nook Bentzen	K9EGO
Ralph Jahimiak	WA9OAE
Greg A. Miller	KA9FOZ
Joe Mazera	WA9SOQ
Dallas Miller	K9LEC
Ray Wakeen	WA9HHM
Van Elston	WA9FIO
Tom Gromacki	N9KIA
Scott Neader	KA9FOX
Dan McKenzie	WC0V
Walt Altus	WD9GCR
Hugh Barker	KA0EJZ
Art Osborn	W0JDC
Arby Boomer	WF9T
Karl Simonson	KB9EQI

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

NEXT MEETING: June 13 at 7 p.m. in the Taylor County Courthouse Annex, 2nd and Ogden. Field Day plans will be discussed and finalized (?)

A REMINDER: If you haven't paid your '91 dues, you are a delinquent, juvenile or otherwise!!!!

Minutes of May 9 Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by President N9GEN. Attending were W9QHI, KB9-BLV, KE4FE, N9IDW, N9GEN, N9GHZ, and W9LEE.

Minutes of April meeting were read and accepted. The treasurer being absent, there was no treasurer's report.

Possibility of linking a remote receiver to the repeater was discussed. The secretary was instructed to write the state frequency co-ordinator requesting a frequency for the remote link.

N9GHZ stated that the new digipeater equipment was still being evaluated at KB9BLV's QTH, and would be moved to Medford as soon as tests were completed.

The secretary was requested to send letters to all members who have not paid their 1991 dues.

The secretary was also authorized to write to *Badger State Smoke Signals*, asking why some members who subscribed through the club are receiving expiration notices, also to obtain current club subscription rates.

Availability of Field Day sites at Abbotsford park and also Rib Lake park are to be checked and reported on the May 29 ARES net.

N9FZD still needs two operators with HTs for the bike race May 18.

Motion approved to reimburse N9GHZ for the exhibitor's fee for the club exhibit at the Abbottdford Tech Fair. N9GHZ reported that 7 of 8 persons taking Novice written exams at Thorp have passed. He also mentioned the Tombstone Fun Run coming up June 22.

N9GEN was authorized to choose which VEC team he wishes to affiliate with, and to try to arrange one testing session to be held at Medford within the year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Rolland Walty, W9LEE
Secretary

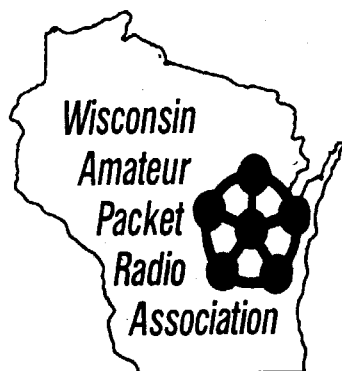
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WAPR Annual Meeting - June 16.....

The WAPR annual meeting will be held Sunday, June 16, 1991 at the Stevens Point Swapfest (see swapfest info in this issue). The following is the tentative schedule for the WAPR meeting:

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:00 WAPR Annual Meeting

1. Area Reports on LANs, Networking, growth, etc.
2. Election of Officers
3. Open Forum

10:30 Software Exchange (Public Domain and Shareware)

11:00 Beginners Packet - LIVE DEMO by Tom Young - KD9FC

11:30 BBS SYSOPS of Wisconsin meeting

12:00 High Speed Network meeting over lunch Joel - K9MLD, Bill - W9NNS, Dan - WB9TYT, Bob - N9BKJ and anyone interested. We want this to grow. If your area wants to join, please be represented!

This schedule was prepared (and can be amended by) Bill Jablonske - W9NNS, WAPR chairman - W9NNS @ W9NNS in Chippewa Falls, WI.

Remember, annual dues can be paid. We are looking for new members for this all-Wisconsin group to foster packet development. WAPR has spent money in several places in Wisconsin helping the system grow. WE NEED YOU - NO BUCKS, NO BANG!

New Converse Node on 145.03 MHz.....

On 4/17/91 a new Converse Node (RRCONV) was installed at the BVD Packet System in Beaver Dam. A different rig was also installed at the site. This rig is a Midland 13-510A with 27 watts of output power. It has a much more sensitive receiver than the previous rig. RRCONV stands for Rock River Radio Club Converse Node. For those new to packet, a Converse Node allows roundtable discussions on packet between many different stations. Several hams have been experimenting with a Rock River Radio Club Packet Net on Saturday evenings at 7:30 PM. All are welcome to participate. Simply connect to RRCONV. Once connected, enter /W to see who else is on the Converse Node. As Summer approaches, the time of the Net might be changed. Connect to the RRRC Mailbox (KA9JDE-1) to check for any time changes.

With its antenna at 250 feet, RRCONV serves users all around Central Wisconsin. In the Milwaukee area, RRCONV can be reached direct from KA-Nodes: OCON, KCI, GTN OR TheNet Node: WIGTWN OR via the WTF digipeater. In the Madison area, RRCONV can be reached via the N9HDT digipeater.

Brad - KA9JDE

Educational Packet.....

This past month, I received a message from a school teacher / Amateur Radio operator, who has brought 'ham' radio into the classroom. Tom - WB9EZY @ KD9JK writes that the Clinton Middle School students have been active sending messages to 126 packet pals throughout the continental United States and Canada. The school has recognized the value of Amateur Radio as it purchased the school station antenna and some of the equipment! They have established a regular correspondence with students at the Omak Middle School in Omak, Washington, including sending them video tapes and writing letters. A local Cub Scout Den, studying Canada was invited to the school station to contact Canadian Amateurs on HF. Tom would like to thank all the BBSs who have helped them in their packet program.

Tom is very active toward getting students involved in Amateur Radio. The word is that Tom's last Novice class tallied over 75!

I am on the trail of another instance of packet in the classroom. I hear that there is a station active at Antigo High School under the guidance of Diane - KA9BHK @ W9ZBD.

Educators, now is the time to begin planning an Amateur Radio station in your school for the upcoming 1991-92 school year. Packet is a fun, easy way to involve students in radio communications, computer skills and electronic theory.

Steve - WB9ZRE

RFI Fix for Older PK-232s.....

For those of you who have tried all the RFI mods you could find on your PK-232 and still have problems, here's another one that may help.

I was getting horrendous amounts of RFI on 10 and 15 meters and had traced it (mostly) to my computer, but grounding, bypassing, putting RF chokes on all the cables, etc. hadn't helped much. In fact, the only thing that did much good was disconnecting my PK-232. Since I needed the TNC, this didn't seem to be a very good solution... (yes, turning off the computer also solved the problem but my TNC doesn't work too well without it).

I contacted AEA customer service about it and

was told that older PK-232's did not have the RS-232 connector shield electrically connected to the main board, thus the shield is left floating in many cases. I was advised to put a couple of #4 machine screws and nuts through the two brackets which were attached to the RS-232 connector, thus making the connection. This involved removing the mother board, which I didn't want to do. I simply added a wire about 1" long with ring terminals from the right L-shaped bracket on the RS-232 connector to the mounting screw on my MBX board and VOILA! substantially reduced RFI on both the above mentioned bands. (I still have minor birdies on 10, but 15 was cleaned up dramatically and now all I can find is a screen related buzz on 21077.5 MHz. I don't operate much phone, so I didn't check these portions of the bands, but I imagine they will have improved as well.

If you have the time and inclination, it would be best to go ahead as AEA recommends and mount the screws through the mother board as this will increase the mechanical strength of the RS-232 connections to the mother board as well.

Bob - AA6UP

Connecting to MIR.....

Several packeteers have asked for information with regards to connecting to the MIR spacecraft. Their questions range from power output required, to frequency, to when will the spacecraft be overhead.

Lets start with a few basics and go from there. MIR makes one complete orbit of the Earth approximately every 93 minutes and it's average altitude is approximately 360 Km. Mir's orbit carries it above local horizon about 7 consecutive orbits each day.

For the packet operator, this translates into an effective access window of 5 minutes on two or three of those passes, with shorter access windows on the balance of the passes. Maximum horizon to horizon time on any one pass is about 10 minutes. (MIR is moving at more than 5 KM per second!)

The best way to know when MIR is overhead is to use a satellite tracking program, obtaining the satellite plotting values - Keplerian data - from the weekly bulletins circulated on packet thru the packet BBS network. An older method is to monitor the frequency MIR is using, when a signal is heard, expect the next pass approximately 93 minutes later. (The first pass will allow less than 2 minutes access time, with the subsequent pass longer.)

As for MIR's frequency, that's 145.55 simplex. The callsign in use is U5MIR, and, yes, there is a mailbox - U5MIR-1. Generally, you will

EAA FLY-IN CONVENTION

JULY 26-29. Experimental Aircraft Association Fly-In Convention. The Fox cities ARC (Appleton, WI) will operate W9ZL call from the EAA Fly-In and Convention in Oshkosh, WI.

This year, a special "IRON ANNIE" certificate will be issued to the stations contacting the W9ZL station operating from on board the Confederate Air Force Ju 52 Junkers Tri-Motor.

The club will operate primarily in the daylight hours in the general portion of the 10, 15, 20, & 40 meter bands and VHF packet. The club will issue special certificates for proper QSLx. All QSLs must use contact numbers and have an SASE included. Send to: Wayne Pennings, WD9FLJ, 913 N. Mason St., Appleton, WI 54914.



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WANTED: Old Ham Gear. Transmitters and receivers. Collins, Johnson, etc. Also good homebrew units. N9IER, Scott. (414) 246-8765

helping finance the many nodes throughout the state to build & maintain a growing network. These Links are high speed links for the most part.. How will you benefit from this network?? The first and most obvious benefit will be the dissemination of mail & bulletins to all the BBS's throughout the state. But, it also supports & moves users live keyboard to keyboard traffic in real time... And probably the most important function will be to handle Emergency traffic in REAL TIME in the event of a Disaster anywhere in the State.. It is also being designed to cover large enough areas for portable Packet operations in the case of any kind of an Emergency..

We do need your financial assistance to get the job done.. Please help us to help you... We are also in need of folks to contribute time & technical support...

The next meeting of WAPR is planned for June 16th at the Stevens Point Swapfest... (see first item for details of meeting, and see the ad elsewhere in this issue for details on the Central Wisconsin Swapfest.

Contact any of the following for more info...

Chairman W9NNS, Fr Bill
V. Chairman KA9EOK, Bob
Secretary KC9BK, Jerry
Treasurer N9BYS, Carl
Director K9MLD, Joel
Director WD9ANY, Bob
Director WB9TYT, Dan

Thank you for your continued support...

TIME TO RENEW YOUR WAPR MEMBERSHIP

Most WAPR memberships will be expiring July 1, 1991. A membership/renewal application blank is printed below for your use. You can use this blank (A copy or a sheet of paper if you want to save your copy of BSSS for other uses.) to apply for membership as indicated above, or to renew your membership. Mail it in promptly or bring it to the WAPR meeting in Stevens Point on June 16, 1991. Your prompt renewal will save us to cost of mailing you a renewal notice.

hear the mailbox, however, MIR is occasionally active for keyboard to keyboard contacts.

If you are on 2 meter packet and your rig can operate on 145.55, you have everything needed to connect to MIR! In order to optimize your capability to connect to MIR, lets concentrate on antenna, power and procedures. Obviously, a stacked mega-element, AZ-EL antenna auto-tracking system running 2000 watts output will put you in great shape for connecting to MIR, however, reality will probably put you into the omni antenna running under 50 watts output category. Actually, the 'standard' station consists of a omni antenna running 10 watts output.

When MIR rises above the horizon, it becomes 'line-of-sight' and can be worked with as little as 1 watt. The 'powers-that-be' have requested a power maximum of 50 watts in order to allow all stations a chance to connect. (If YOU run more than 50 watts, make a sign with 'LID' printed in big letters and hang it around your neck for all to see!).

Antennas are a different matter, anything goes. The best antenna is a high gain beam, however, a beam only works well in a specific direction. In order to work MIR with a beam, you will have to aim your it at MIR as the spacecraft passes across the sky, a very difficult prospect if you do not have a tracking program and AZ-EL rotor system. A good compromise is a high gain omni antenna. While the gain is several Dbs less than a beam, an omni does not have to be pointed at MIR.

Now for a few hints in connecting to U5MIR. The Mir packet station is set up to handle only one connect at a time. If U5MIR or U5MIR-1 is connected to a station, do not attempt to connect until the station disconnects. Set your TNC parameters so that you are able to display all packets received by your radio and see when you should attempt to connect. (If you try to connect when another station is working MIR, you will slow down that station's access - and possibly eliminating any time for you to connect before the satellite sets below your horizon!). If you connect to U5MIR-1, keep your message very short (Meaning under 10 words, including your name and callsign). The BBS is a limited size. Allow others the opportunity to drop in a 'Hello'. Here is an example of a message to MIR:

ST U5MIR
Hello
VY 73 & PLS QSL - Joe WA9XYZ Anytown, WI

WAPR MEMBERS WANTED

How would you like to get a FREE subscription to Badger State Smoke Signals??? Read up on all the current news & happenings in most of the clubs in the State of Wisconsin... Schedule of Swapfests, etc... Here is all you have to do... Connect to your favorite Packet BBS in the state & either send D MEMBER.APP or D WAPR/MEMBER.APP to get an application to join WAPR, or use the application blank below. (Make a copy if you don't want to tear up your copy of BSSS.) If your favorite BBS does not have this application on file, just send a note to Carl, N9BYS @ N9BYS requesting an application...

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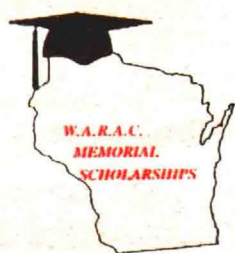
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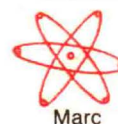
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